

# The Very Last Post on AA Agnostica – More Than 14 1/2 Years Old!



**By Roger C.**

This is the last article to be published on AA Agnostica. The website will remain online and accessible to all – we have now had five million viewers! – but there will be no new articles.

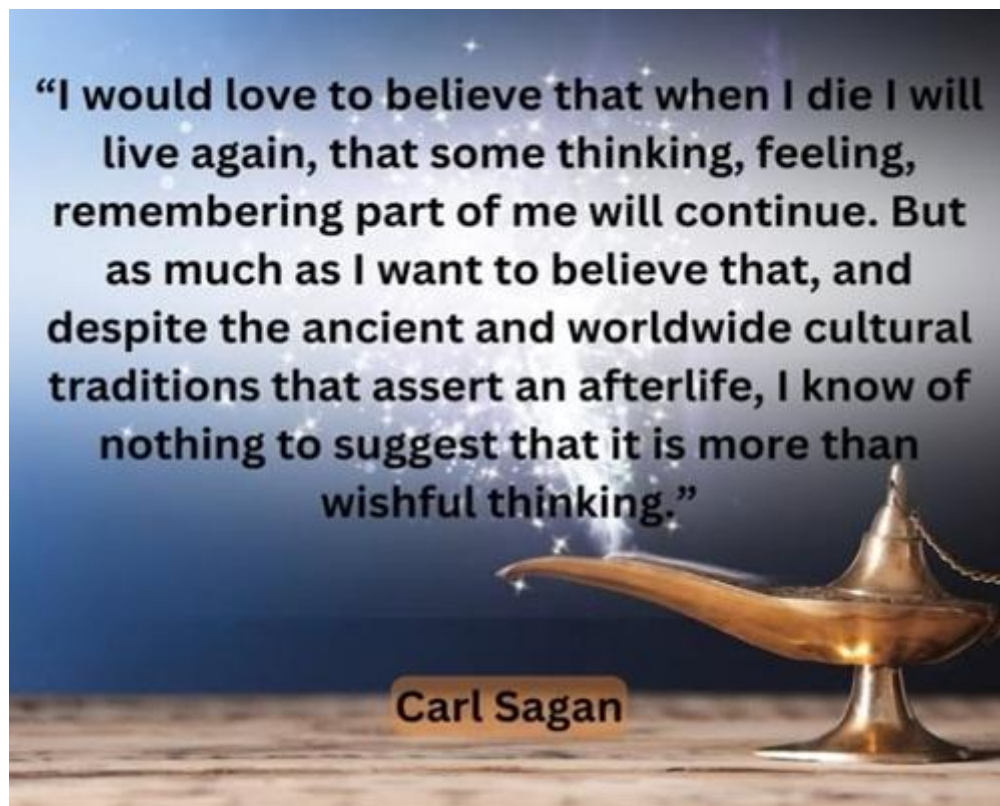
I launched the website in June of 2012. Why did I do that? Well, at that time I was a member of an AA group in Toronto, Ontario launched by Joe C., the author of [\*Beyond Belief: Agnostic Musings for 12 Step Life\*](#). That group was booted out of AA. Why did that happen? Well, because the group used a completely secular version of the 12 Steps. And after roughly six years Joe's group was relisted as a member of AA by the AA General Service Office, responsible for AA in both the United States and Canada. AA Agnostica has been an active and popular website ever since it was launched way back then.

And another question. Since I lived in Hamilton and it took me an hour and a half to get to Joe's meeting and another hour and a half to get back home, why did I attend that meeting? Well, simply because the AA meetings in Hamilton were far too religious. There would quite often be God talks during the meetings and every one of the meetings ended with the Lord's Prayer. And I was told a number of times that if I didn't believe in a God I would not be able to stay sober.

Bugged me a lot, those meetings. And by the way I understand religion. My mother was very, very religious and we went to church every Sunday. However I quit believing in a God at the age of nineteen. And – in order to understand how and why people believed

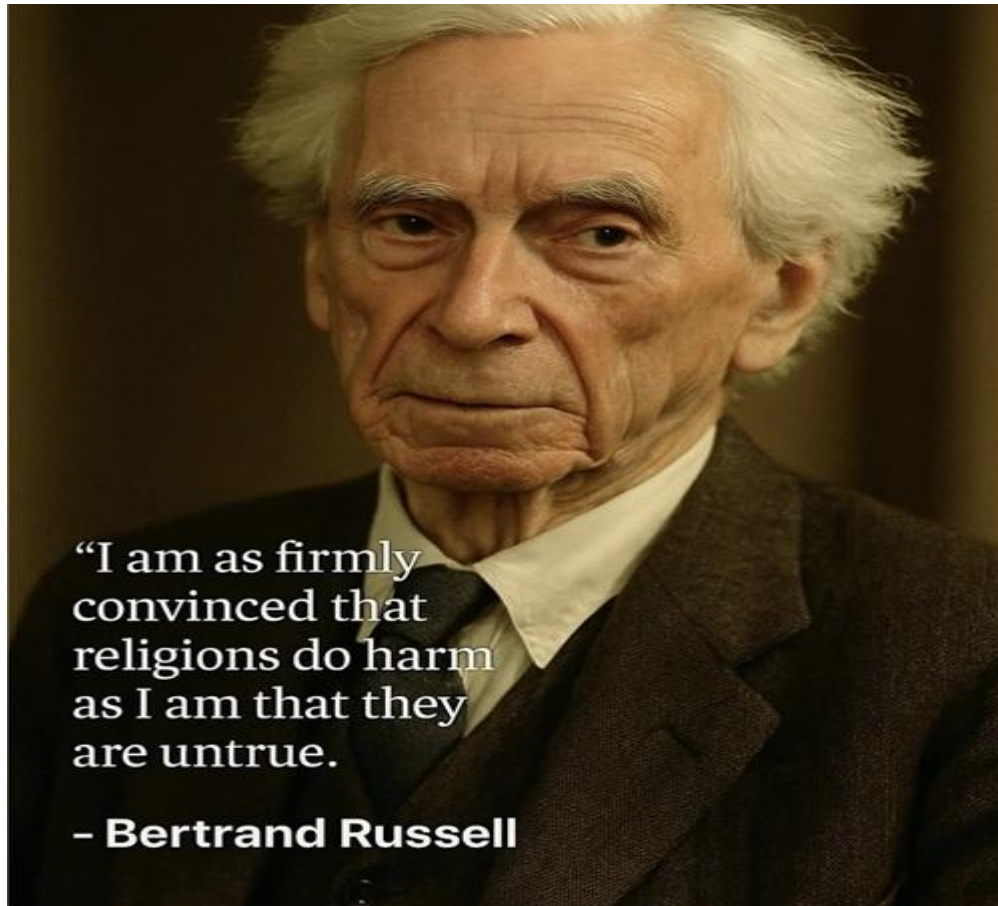
in a God – I got a BA in Religious Studies at Laurentian University in Sudbury and an MA in Religious Studies at McGill University in Montreal. After those, I still didn't believe in a deity. But it doesn't bother me at all if people believe in a God. What does bother me is if people push their beliefs on other people. And that's what happened – a lot – at the traditional AA meetings I attended. And that's why I quit attending them and went to Joe's meeting in Toronto.

And of course when I launched AA Agnostica it was also meant to be for all kinds of people and especially for AA folks who are agnostics and/or atheists. And now what do you think of this quote (let me know!):



I like the last two words in this quote. To me that's what a God belief is all about: "wishful thinking". But does it make sense when he says at the beginning "I would love to believe that when I die I will live again, that some thinking, feeling, remembering part of me will continue"? Do you agree with that? I don't. There was no remembering part of me before I was born and there won't be after I die. That's my belief.

And here's another quote:



Now here's my question to all you folks: Do religions do harm? I mentioned problems I experienced when attending traditional AA, but are there other religious problems?

And now a Canadian quote: "A significant portion of Canadians, about a third, do not identify with a religion. The number of Canadians reporting no religious affiliation increased from 16.5% in 2001 to 34.6% in 2021." And one American article (published in October of 2025): "[15,000 churches could close this year amid religious shift in U.S.](#)"

This final article has been about religion. I must say, and this is what I have been thinking about a lot over the last few months, a lot of religion was very much pushed on me in the earlier years of my life. Did that happen to any of you folks? I will also report that it's not happening to me these days. Oh, and a number of years ago I launched two secular AA meetings – called "We Agnostics" – held here in Hamilton every Monday and Thursday. They are wonderful. And from a book I published – [The Little Book: A Collection of Alternative 12 Steps](#) – one of the secular versions of the Steps are read at the beginning of each meeting.

Alright, so this is it: the final article! It's now the 777th article on AA Agnostica. Thank you for reading this article, and my very best wishes to folks in recovery.