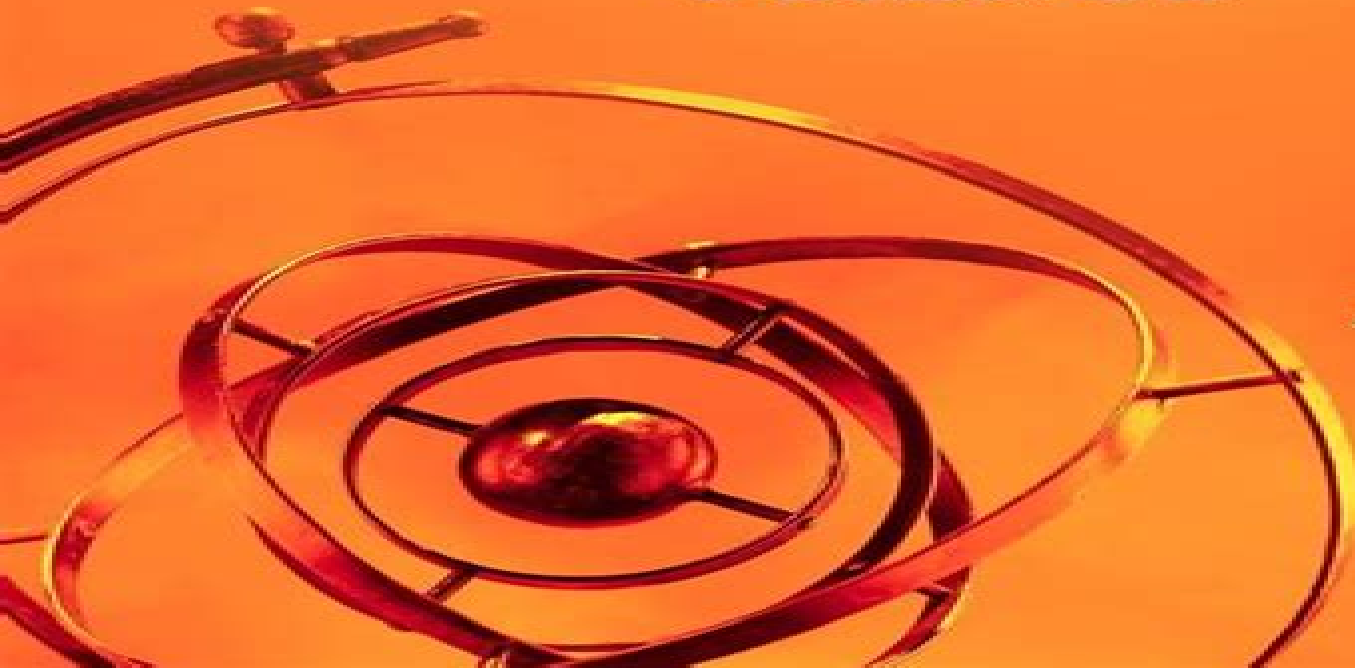


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VITAL QUESTIONS ABOUT  
SCIENCE

KEITH  
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# It Started With Copernicus Vital Questions About Science Keith Parsons

**Keith M. Parsons**



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Rigorous yet highly readable this excellent invitation to the philosophy of science makes a convincing case that understanding the nature of science is essential for understanding life itself **Unapologetic** John W. Loftus, 2016-11-01 Just as intelligent design is not a legitimate branch of biology in public educational institutions nor should the philosophy of religion be a legitimate branch of philosophy So argues acclaimed author John W Loftus in this forceful takedown of the very discipline in which he was trained In his call for ending the philosophy of religion he argues that as it is presently being

practiced the main reason the discipline exists is to serve the faith claims of Christianity Most of philosophy of religion has become little more than an effort to defend and rationalize preexisting Christian beliefs If subjects such as biology chemistry physics and geology are all taught without reference to faith based supernatural forces as explanations faith based teachings should not be acceptable in this discipline either While the book offers a fascinating study of the fallacies and flaws on which one whole field of study rests it speaks to something much larger in the ongoing culture wars By highlighting the stark differences between faith based reasoning and evidence based reasoning Loftus presents vital arguments and lessons about the importance of critical thinking not only in all aspects of study but also in life His conclusions and recommendations thus resonate far beyond the ivory towers and ivy covered walls of academic institutions

**Science Wars** Keith Parsons,2003-02 Is science our most precious possession or has our culture elevated science into a false idol Is technology a useful servant or a malign genie These questions are at the centre of the science wars currently being waged over the role and future of science and technology in our society This balanced selection of a variety of perspectives on the hotly contested role of science and technology in contemporary society will clarify this vital debate for both specialists and non specialists

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**The Copernican Question** Robert Westman,2020-04-21 In 1543 Nicolaus Copernicus publicly defended his hypothesis that the earth is a planet and the sun a body resting near the center of a finite universe But why did Copernicus make this bold proposal And why did it matter The Copernican Question reframes this pivotal moment in the history of science centering the story on a conflict over the credibility of astrology that erupted in Italy just as Copernicus arrived in 1496 Copernicus engendered enormous resistance when he sought to protect astrology by reconstituting its astronomical foundations Robert S Westman shows that efforts to answer the astrological skeptics became a crucial unifying theme of the early modern scientific movement His interpretation of this long sixteenth century from the 1490s to the 1610s offers a new framework for understanding the great transformations in natural philosophy in the century that followed

Copernicus' Secret Jack Repcheck,2007-12-04 The surprising little known story of the scientific revolution that almost didn't happen how cleric and scientific genius Nicolaus Copernicus's work revolutionized astronomy and altered our understanding of our place in the world Nicolaus Copernicus gave the world perhaps the most important scientific insight of the modern age the theory that the earth and the other planets revolve around the sun He was also the first to proclaim that the earth rotates on its axis once every twenty four hours His theory was truly radical during his lifetime nearly everyone believed that a perfectly still earth rested in the middle of the cosmos where all the heavenly bodies revolved around it One of the transcendent geniuses of the early Renaissance Copernicus was also a flawed and conflicted person A cleric who lived during the tumultuous years of the early Reformation he may have been sympathetic to the teachings of the Lutherans Although he had taken a vow of celibacy he kept at least one mistress Supremely confident intellectually he hesitated to disseminate his work among other scholars It fact he kept his

astronomical work a secret revealing it to only a few intimates and the manuscript containing his revolutionary theory which he refined for at least twenty years remained hidden among my things It is unlikely that Copernicus masterwork would ever have been published if not for a young mathematics professor named Georg Joachim Rheticus He had heard of Copernicus ideas and with his imagination on fire he journeyed hundreds of miles to a land where as a Lutheran he was forbidden to travel Rheticus meeting with Copernicus in a small cathedral town in northern Poland proved to be one of the most important encounters in history Copernicus Secret recreates the life and world of the scientific genius whose work revolutionized astronomy and tells the fascinating story behind the dawn of the scientific age      **Copernicus, Darwin, and Freud** Friedel Weinert, 2009-03-12 Using Copernicanism Darwinism and Freudianism as examples of scientific traditions Copernicus Darwin and Freud takes a philosophical look at these three revolutions in thought to illustrate the connections between science and philosophy Shows how these revolutions in thought lead to philosophical consequences Provides extended case studies of Copernicanism Darwinism and Freudianism Integrates the history of science and the philosophy of science like no other text Covers both the philosophy of natural and social science in one volume

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