

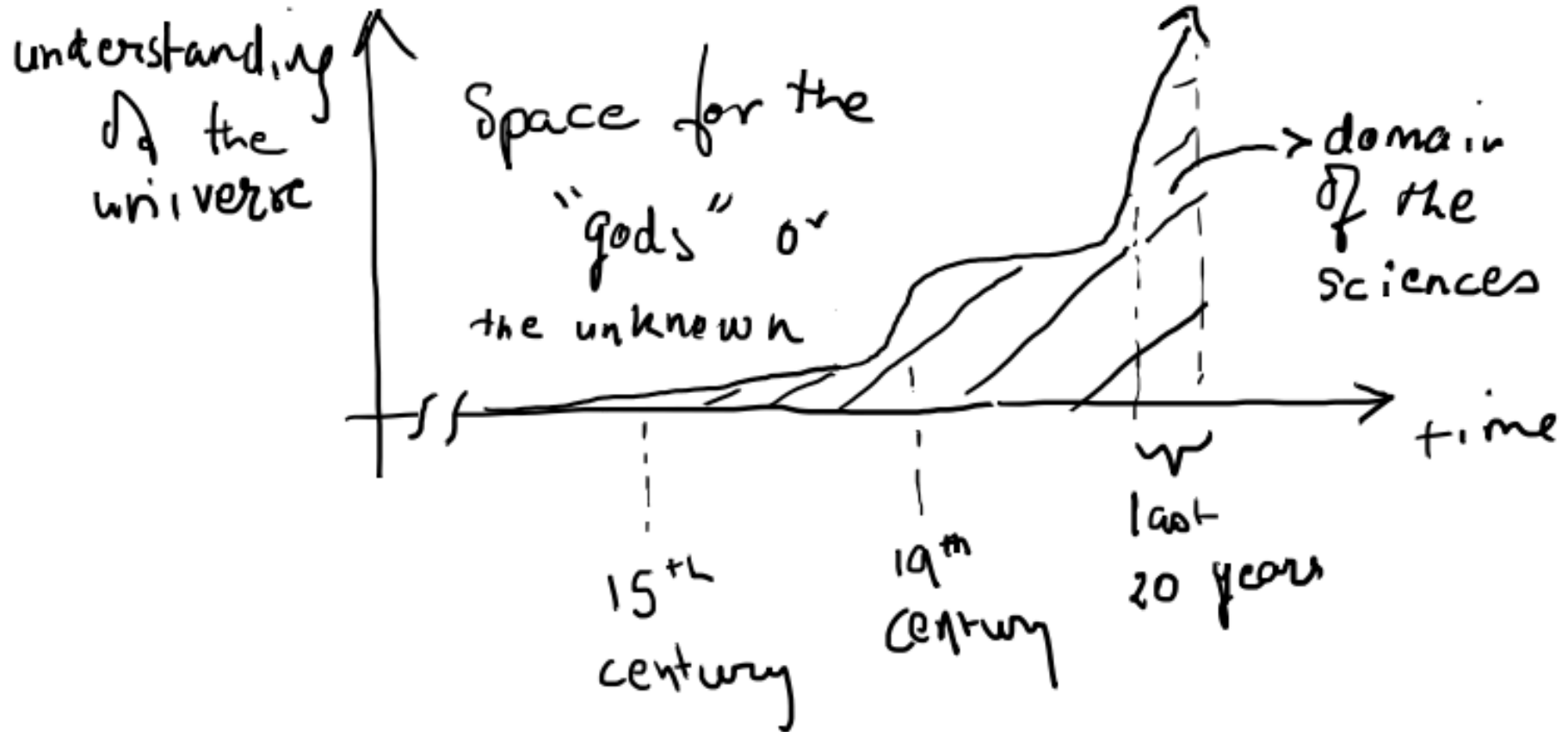
Society Vs Science
Confluences & Conflicts

Associated words exercise

Why science is in conflict?

- Questioning and healthy skepticism
- Every understanding is falsifiable
- Universal appeal
- Best explanations
- Best predictions

Why science is in conflict?



Science Vs. Society (Barbur-2000)

- **Conflict** - Only one can be true.
- **Independence** - Both true, no overlap
- **Dialog** - searching for common ground
- **Integration** - both necessary!

Some conflicts

- Galileo Vs. Church
- Darwin's Evolution Vs. Creationism
- Narendra Dabholkar
- Violence due to 'witch-craft' in India
 - more than 2.5k killed (2000-2016)
 - Mostly women.

A case of conflict

A) Context

- Nigerian village
- Different ethnic, religious population
- Peaceful and calm for centuries
- Story of 2 friends - Christian and Muslim
- Conflicts settled with known peaceful ways

A case of conflict

B) Stress

- Differences → "Identity crazed"
- Plurality → Us/Them duality
- Getting along → Getting revenge
- "Only humans can switch from feeling united ... to feeling divided" Vs. other animals.

A case of conflict

C) Scientific study

- MRI Experiment
 - 12 faces white - 12 faces black
 - "Tigers" Vs. "Leopards"
- Observations
 - "our perceptions and emotions about groups... outside our awareness or control"
 - BUT - making new team identities is possible!
 - Groupishness - Keen 'mental radar' always looking for groups that matter & if it's ours!

A case of conflict

D) Scientific solution

- 1954 experiment with 6th graders
- “human beings can shift their group perceptions in both directions. Sometimes we turn Us into Them. But we can also turn Them into Us.”
- “The idea is to diminish the psychological benefits of conflict and increase the psychological benefits of cooperation”

A case of conflict

E) Training

- Mercy Corps - communal bore-well
- Police training (US) - awareness of bias
- "Like many people on both sides of the conflict, Solomon Igbawua has linked the new ideas of negotiation training to his deep religious faith. **Forgiveness for past misdeeds**, he says, is both a good idea for negotiators and an obligation for Christians."

Pic from same article.

