Speculative Realms

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010

We Don't Know How Damning a Diagnosis of Multiple Personality Disorder Can Be—or Do We?

"Insight into the link between certain therapy practices and the development of MPD symptoms comes from malpractice suits and state licensure actions against therapists who specialize in the identification and treatment of patients for MPD. These cases demonstrate the ease with which an individual can be led to exhibit MPD-like symptoms-- especially when hypnosis, sodium amytal, strong medications, or readings involving traumatic imagery magnify the effect of therapist suggestions or expectations. These cases also show that once the symptoms associated with MPD become established,the standard treatment modality often leads to a deterioration of the mental and emotional well being of the patient."—From the False Memory Syndrome Foundation

Mr. Gene Steinberg, keep the above quote in your mind. Came back to it if you need to. But keep it in mind for a long time. For the rest of the way, in fact.

Is the diagnosis of multiple personality disorder a dangerous thing? Isn't it just a neutral thing? What exactly can it do to someone? Is it particularly damning?

Apparently, there is a large body of malpractice law which covers misdiagnosis of MPD and the concomitant treatment of the client as though the client actually suffered from it and in hypnosis-related cases, the disorder seems to have been manufactured. Let's look at the following case from the FMSF:

An Indiana mother's nightmare began in September 1982 when an intruder entered her home, knocked her unconscious, shot and wounded her two sons while they slept, and scrawled a threatening message on her mirror.[Footnote omitted.]

Although Kathy Burns repeatedly denied any involvement in the crime against her sons, passed a polygraph examination and a voice stress test, and provided exculpatory handwriting examples, investigating officers viewed her as the prime suspect.

Two weeks after the shooting, speculating that Burns had multiple personalities, one of which was responsible for the shootings, the officers decided to interview her under hypnosis. A prosecuting attorney gave permission to conduct the hypnotic interview. While under hypnosis, Burns referred to the assailant as "Katie" and also referred to herself by that name. The officers interpreted that reference as supporting their multiple-personality theory.

Burns was arrested for attempted murder and detained in a psychiatric ward for 4 months until experts concluded that she did not suffer from MPD. During that time, she was fired from her job, and the State obtained temporary custody of her sons.

The case did not go to trial, however. The trial court granted the mother's motion to quash the statements made under hypnosis and the prosecutor's office dismissed all charges against her. The mother then sued several of the people involved with her false arrest and hypnosis
interviews. Three defendants settled for $250,001. The charges against the prosecutor who authorized the hypnosis session were dismissed after a long legal road, which at one point went before the U.S. Supreme Court. (Paragraphing supplied.)
—MPD in the Courts

It doesn't seem that Ms. Burns escaped undamned in this instance. She was "damned" to a psychiatric ward for four months. She lost her job and she lost custody of her children. Note she was diagnosed by a team of amateur psychologists.

That is just a taste.

"Woman Sues Therapists Over 500 Personalities Claim

RESEARCH RESOURCES

- Anomalist
- Crankdotnet
- Emma Woods's Website
- Fact Check Dot Org
- False Memory Syndrome Foundation
- Federation of American Scientists
- FindArticles.com
- Glossarist Dictionaries
- Independent Investigations Group
- Joe Nickell
- Journal of Scientific Exploration
- JSTOR.ORG
- Law.com's Law Dictionary
- Magonia
- Paranthropology
- Philosophical Terms and Names
- Rhine Research Center
- Scientific Review of Mental Health Practice
- Skeptic's Dictionary
- Sleep and Hypnosis: An International Journal
- Sleep Paralysis Page
- SUNlite
- The Trickster Book by George Hansen
- The Word Nerds
- Trickster's Way Online Journal
- When Healers Harm

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March 8, 1995

reported in Houston Chronicle by Deborah Tedford

A federal lawsuit has been filed by Lynn Carl seeking $18 million from psychologist Judith Peterson, Spring Shadows Glen and at least 23 other mental health practitioners and businesses, most of them in Houston. Carl said that she spent more than $2 million on mental health treatment after therapists convinced her she was a Satan worshiper ritually abused since childhood. Carl claims that she was hypnotized. According to Carl, when she told her therapists she did not believe any such events had happened, she was told that her memories had been repressed in order to deal with the abuse. She said she was told that her personality had fragmented into different ones in order to cope with the ritual murder, cannibalism and torture. Even though she had no memory of abusing her own children, Carl claims that therapists forced her to report herself to the police as a child abuser."
—The Suit by Lynn Carl

Are we done playing with fire yet?

If you peruse the literature on false memories, hypnosis, and MPD, you keep running into the phrase "iatrogenesis." [For those who detest Wikipedia, here's an alternate site, complete with tech polution.] The critics of MPD cite that phrase a lot. It means they think the disorder can be fashioned by the therapist. What if the therapist makes the diagnosis for the express purpose of creating the symptoms? What if the therapist wishes to create the symptoms through hypnosis and also create the resulting chaos from treating those symptoms? If the client weren't mad to begin with, certainly he'd be mad by the time treatment was through with him.

Would an amateur, say a man calling himself "The Mad Hatter (MH)," be considered abusive if he knowingly sought to create a disease where, as stated above, the treatment was worse than the cure? What if the MH knew that "the standard treatment modality often leads to a deterioration of the mental and emotional well-being of the patient"?

Let's assume the MH has read the same MPD literature we have. What if the MH read that literature and he intentionally sought to trash the psyche of a client that he felt threatened by? Say, one who had purported proof his data was hoaxed.

It would provide excellent cover, especially in a State where the sky is the limit for amateur hypnotists. Then if the client makes good on any threat to expose the hoaxed data, why, you can just call him crazy. That's because he is, right? That's been established iatrogenically. The MH knows that the client is crazy because the MH created the symptoms that plague the client.

Well, we can't assume that, right? The hypothetical MH might not have read the literature. That'd be a good point. We can't expect every amateur practitioner of hypnotherapy to maintain professional competence in the same way that, for instance, doctors and lawyers are subject to continuing education requirements. Also, in a State with no regulation of the profession whatsoever, keeping up on the literature amounts to needless self-disclipining. That is too much work.

That might make sense for a stage hypnotist. But for an amateur who is also a scholar, it isn't bloody likely--especially when you are talking about a scholar with tenure who prides himself on his scholarship and preemptive argumentative strikes.

According to case law and the literature, it is quite easy to screw up someone's mind by diagnosing them with MPD operating under normal conditions, without any ulterior motives, and have your pants sued off from the resulting disaster that has been created. To do it with intent, either because you hate your client because he can destroy your reputation with proof of hoaxed data, or to produce symptoms that act as radio interference preventing mind readers from detecting your signal, without any concern for the possible repercussions for your client--well, is that abusive?

Were you a professional, it would be malpractice. Even if you were a nice professional. Luckily, your province is lawless with regard to hypnosis. Amateurs can't be sued for malpractice. They're essentially Goldman Sachs employees. They can invent new crimes at will.

As to motive, well, wouldn't the MH, who has built a lucrative career on hypnotically collected data, try to destroy someone who was accusing him or his associates of hoaxing that data?

No, Mr. Steinberg. I don't think the diagnosis of MPD harms anybody. I read the cases and the journal articles, but I don't believe them. Supreme Court cases. Psychiatric journals. It is all bunk. I think any amateur hypnotist who practices psychotherapy without a license is free to fix that diagnosis onto anyone he pleases.

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- From grandmother cells to tales of a great-grandfather
- From grandmother cells to tales of a great-grandfather
- Aviv Bergman

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- Today's News With Alternative Feeds and Think Tanks
- Terror Economies, Perverting Language, and Misogyny

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- Gawd Awful Time for Paranormal Cognoscenti
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- The Uncomfortable Juxtaposition: Lennox verus Hawking
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- Science Weekly podcast: Hearing is believing
- Science Weekly Podcast: The science of sleep | Alok Jha talks to Prof Russell Foster

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- Remembering Lies: Interview with Psychiatric Abuse Victim Jeanette Bartha
- Electric
- Last Train to Transcendental
- Imagining the World without You

JULIAN BAGGINI

- The Shrink & The Sage: Independence
- Today - BBC Radio Four
- We Will Get Better

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- Fab Lab: How to Make (Almost) Anything
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I think it is ok to use MPD as a diagnosis when you are evading capture by aliens.

Notes to the Underground

To *ChristChild (CC):* CC, I think your Nixon analogy is most apt. I like Gene Steinberg. Look, he's done a string of excellent shows. But you are right to call him to task for not understanding the seriousness of the Emma Woods Case and the depths to which Mr. Jacobs has sunk. I would go so far as to say that podcasts such as Gene's are inadequate venues for matters this complicated, but Jeremy Vaeni and Jeff Ritzmann are vivid examples that that isn't necessarily the case. I think you've also got the impact of this case in Ufological history nailed. But we will see.

To *BROWNIE*: There is clear resemblance between the hypnosis wing of abduction research and cult phenomena. I think you are right on target with that.

To *EMMA*: I agree. Your case is in the public interest and beneficial for the State of Pennsylvania in the following respects:

1. The practice of hypnosis without licensure or oversight can lead to abuses of the practice which can include the hypnotist arrogating to himself the role of psychotherapist. The Pennsylvania State legislature would then have to construct laws preventing this abuse.

2. Mr. Jacobs was in fact practicing psychotherapy without a license when he diagnosed you with multiple personality disorder, a diagnosis that is hazardous to the health of the patient in the best of circumstances, but in this case was a grotesque example of playing with psychological fire.

3. The case rightly brings the practice of hypnosis under further scrutiny for its potential for abomination and boundaries will get further clarified as to what hypnosis can and cannot do. It also impacts the relationship between hypnosis and MPD and further clarifies responsibilities therapists have with regard to leveling that diagnosis, the diagnostic equivalent of an atomic psychological bomb.

I understand your reluctance to bring the case to trial. I'm sure once legal research has concluded, the proper course to take will be more apparent. My feeling is that you have a strong case. It is important for many reasons. On many levels. Levels that serve not just Pennsylvania but the rest of the United States as well.

Follow Ups

Court Documents related to the Carl case
Friend of the Court Briefs by the False Memory Syndrome Foundation

Posted by Gary Haden at 6:24 AM
Labels: Emma Woods, False Memory, MPD, Multiple Personality Disorder

20 comments:

Atrueoriginall said...

I appreciate this post of yours soooo much. It tells of a much bigger picture, which I knew existed from a bit of research myself as well.

April 30, 2010 8:17 AM

ChristChild said...

Thank you for your indepth research and analysis on this topic and others. How amazing that you have the time to do such work, yet someone like Gene Steinberg (who runs a popular podcast and forum that has to potential to influence many people IN THIS AREA OF INVESTIGATION) cannot do so, even though he holds no employment other than monitoring the PF forum and arranging for the scheduling of guests and hosts. I see on the PF under the latest podcast discussion that Gene erupted in a little tirade today about all the nasty people who just don't understand him and Chris O'Brien. Evidently, if you disagree with either, you are deliberately misinterpreting their verbal and written words. In fact, O'Brien responded by saying that one critic (Brownie) probably is mentally ill (why is this always the last modern refuge of scoundrels to simply call someone who disagrees with their illogic mentally ill?). Gene claims that his verbal and written words do not mean what they say! In other words, he is soooooo misunderstood by people who criticize him. Well, perhaps Gene is in the wrong business. I am not being flippant! If a man cannot express himself clearly, then he has no business running a weekly podcast and a forum. Coincidentally, the people who praise Gene on the forum ad nauseum are most often those who also support the classic David Jacobs stance on alien abduction and loath Emma Woods! So it seems that such people interpret Gene's verbal and written words as support for "their man". None of THEM have been banned, nor has Gene reprimanded them! Yet Gene has seen fit to ban at least 2 people recently

- Nurturing the Spirit in the Age of the Web
- Reviving the Aral Sea
- "Waste Heat" a Potential Threat to the Climate

UFO RELIGIONS

- Probability of ET Life Arbitrarily Small
- Junk DNA as Evidence of ET Life in our Genes? Try Again.
- Could We Tell An Advanced ET from God?
- Geraldo Rivera Predicts Alien Contact in 25 Years
- Intelligent Panspermia News

DR. DAVID CLARKE

- Hilary Evans 1929-2011
- Aliens in the imagination
- UFOs and the Vietnam War
- Only joking folks!
- Lost in the land of Oz

POINT OF INQUIRY

- Jaco Gericke - Confessions of a Died-Again Christian
- Rebecca Watson - Skepticism and Feminism
- Richard Wiseman - Paranormality
- Matthew Chapman - The Ledge

PHILOSOPHY BITES

- Luc Bovens on Catholicism and HIV
- Peter Singer on Henry Sidgwick's Ethics
- National Portrait Gallery 'Picturing Philosophers' a free tour
- Victor Tadros on Punishment
- Alison Gopnik on the Imagination

21ST CENTURY RADIO WITH DR. BOB HIERONIMUS, PH.D.

- Hour One with Nancy Jo Fox author of Liberties with Liberty The Fascinating History of America's Proudest Symbol - 7/17/11
- Hour two with Nancy Jo Fox author of Liberties with Liberty The Fascinating History of America's Proudest Symbol - 7/17/11
- Dr. Zohara Hieronimus, Guest Host:Paul Rademacher autoh or A Spiritual Hitchhiker's Guide to the Universe

BAD UFOS: SKEPTICISM, UFOS, AND THE UNIVERSE

- "Classic" UFO Photo from Belgian Wave - the Hoaxer Confesses
- Happy World UFO Disclosure Day!
- "UFO Mothership & Fleet over London"
- That "Ghostly Mirage City" in China
- More "Night Vision" UFOs : A Squadron of UFOs flying over Oakland?

SKEPTICALITY:THE OFFICIAL PODCAST OF SKEPTIC MAGAZINE

- Skepticality #161 - TAM9, Tyson From Outer Space - Interview: Neil deGrasse Tyson
- Skepticality #160 - Paranormality - Interview: Professor Richard Wiseman
- Skepticality #159 - From Darwin to The Ledge - Interview: Matthew Chapman
- Skepticality #158 - Return to Lake Skepticamp - Featured Talk: Tim Farley

THE SKEPTIC ZONE

- The Skeptic Zone #145 - 29.July.2011
- The Skeptic Zone #144 - 23.July.2011

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(he claimed this today - I am sure I am one of them) for daring to imply he is biased.

Note: Gene has a new ploy on the PF. He no longer blatantly bans a person from the forum, since this would then show up as "banned" on that person's previous postings. Instead, to the public the person appears to have simply stopped posting. THEY HAVE JUST DISAPPEARED! In truth, the person is not allowed to ever post again, even though the person's account looks open. 3 people have revealed this to me when I inquired why they had stopped posting. They have been banned, but secretly. Gene, you really are a piece of work! You and your little dog too (O'Brien).

I realize I have hyjacked your latest blog entry to return to Gene Steinberg, but since you did address a comment to him (which is like trying to have an intelligent dialogue with a plaster garden knome), I felt empowered for one last critical response.

As Jeremy and Ritzman have said, ufology is a total mess, and it is best to just wash your hands of the entire slimy situation. It's like going into a Tea Party podcast/forum and trying to discuss calmly and sensibly US Health Care Reform and the fact that 95% of Americans got a tax CUT under Obama. It ain't gonna happen! Instead of calling you mentally ill (the ufology ploy of choice) they will say you are a commie!

Me? I think my mind would be better spend rereading the HARRY POTTER novels. Yes, they were originally written for kids, but they are a lot more sensible and intelligent than what passes for logical thought in the ufology community.

Final note: Brownie - watch it on PF. You are on the verge of being secretly banned. Youc could just simply disappear and no one else on the forum would ever know what happened to you. Did you get the threatening private PM from Gene yet warning that he might (gasp!!!) give you an infraction for speaking your mind?

April 30, 2010 9:43 AM

ChristChild said...

Gary, I think I must say for the record what may be very obvious by now. I do NOT like Gene Steinberg in any way. I have had personal interactions with him where he hit me up for money in a very heavy handed manner. This shocked me. I even went to my church to try and get some help for the guy. But I subsequently learned (from one of his own moderators who contacted me in email) that Gene does this routinely! I feel bad for the fellow if he has financial needs. That is indeed a frightening ordeal in this society where you ain't nothing without money! Nonetheless, his actions just felt really slimey to me (implying that there were no groceries in the house and he needed money immediately). I just felt a bit sick inside. Should I send him money? I do want to help those who need it. But after talking with my life partner of 34 years and others who know Gene, the answer was a firm "No!" If the Paracast is just not pulling in the funds needed to support Gene and his family in upscale Scottsdale, then I would have to suggest he seek other gameful employment.

And that is my last public comment on this particular personality in the modern world of ufology.

April 30, 2010 9:55 AM

ChristChild said...

Gameful or is it gainful employment? I probably introduce some unintended humor in my posts via my quick fingers and lack of due diligence in previewing. :-)

I have removed my bookmark to the Paracast. What is the point? I see that Brownie is on her last legs - has been publically reprimanded and declared an enemy of the people's party of Paracast for daring to treat Gene and O'Brien in the same manner that THEY treat Emma Woods!

Life is too short to give these shysters a second thought. May they rot in their little fringe subculture myopia. Why should anyone care what some 60+ year old man in his little forum thinks, along with his 40-something yes-men who seem to think doing a co-host gig is a real accomplishment, something big to present to St. Peter at the Pearly gates someday....

I must take my own advice to Emma and pull the throttle upward away from this stinking garbage dump. And advice to anyone from Paracast who might pop in here: if Gene asks you for money, tell him to get a job or move to a more humble neighborhood. Scottsdale is Phoenix's answer to LA's Beverly Hills. Just living in a Scottsdale zip code increases your costs by at least double. My problem Gene decided to live there? No way.

Take care, everyone.

April 30, 2010 3:34 PM

- The Skeptic Zone #143 - 15.July.2011
- The Skeptic Zone #142 - 9.July.2011
- The Skeptic Zone #141 - 1.July.2011

WHO SPILLED MORE BLOOD IN THE 20TH CENTURY?

Science
Religion
It is a tie
Not a fair question

Votes so far: 45
Poll closed

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- Unbelievable? 23 Jul 2011 - Is there justification for abortion? - 23 July 2011

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- Beate Stolte: 7-27-11: The Necessity of Finding One’s Own Place and Path — Reflections on the Genjo Koan
- John Dunne: 7-24-11: Mind And Meditation: The Self Beyond Thought (Part 8 of 8)
- John Dunne: 7-24-11: Mind And Meditation: The Self Beyond Thought (Part 7 of 8)
- John Dunne: 7-23-11: Mind And Meditation: The Self Beyond Thought (Part 6 of 8)

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- Global Village, or Techno-Tribalism?
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- Review of "Gaslighting, the Double Whammy, Interrogation, and other Methods of Covert Control in Psychotherapy and Analysis" by Theo Dorpat (1996).
- "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"
- An Introduction to "Prisoners of Childhood" by Alice Miller (1981)

MONSTERTALK

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Gary Haden, a.k.a Daktari Impossible said...

CC, I was sorry to see Ritzmann go. He's concerned for his family and I respect that. He struck a blow for sobriety in the field.

I think character assassination appears to be what passes for scholarship in UFO circles. It is a problem and it has cost us a good man.

My problem with Gene is philosophical. I think he's wrong with regard to Jacobs. The Jacobs case transcends the UFO field, however, and the usual talking points don't apply. I think Gene finds that disconcerting.

It isn't just a case of Jacobs versus the Debunkers. There are real public policy concerns here.

But being banned by the Paracast is no big deal. When you do internet publishing, you have editorial control over your content and Gene and Dave just didn't care for my opinion at the time. They were the publishers.

It isn't exactly the first amendment's finest hour and just because you can ban someone doesn't mean you're necessarily correct.

Banning abusive behavior I'm ok with. Banning opposing points of view not so much. And to some the difference is not very clear. The choice then is not to peruse the site. Give yourself some peace.

That's the choice I've made. It doesn't make Gene evil, though. Being wrong is not the same as being evil.

May 1, 2010 7:32 AM

ChristChild said...

Gary, You are right, and I assume your advice was to anyone who might be reading your site (how many hits do you get? It is a fantastic site and your calm rational approach deserves an audience - hope it actually has one!).

Yes, I do think people get wrapped up in the little teapots we call internet forums. Then when a tempest hits that teapot, people involved think it is Katrina, forgetting that the entire situation is among perhaps 10 people at most while the larger world moves along unperturbed. Another important point for ME to remember (and perhaps others) is that I do not know the age, maturity or personality of the other people on a website. For example, on the Paracast, there are certain people who always agree with Gene, no matter what he says (DyingSun is one such person). If Gene recommended the death of all children under 2 years old (in a throwback to Herod), I think DyingSun would click on the THANKS button to show his solidarity with Gene on the issue. For all I know, I could be trying to reach someone who is 13 years old!! No offense to those in the younger age brackets, but hopefully you get what I mean. I wonder "How can any rational human being be so pig headed, cruel, ignorant, blah, blah, blah". Well, how can Tea Party members march on the Capital with mispelled signs, protesting against their own best interests on the behalf of corporate America? The world is an insane place. The sooner I truly grok to that, the more peaceful I will be. The world is full of sycophants and born again believers. We all have an "attack mode" inside us (I bet even Mother Terisa felt like kicking an orphan in the butt occasionally). The internet brings out the "attack mode" in most people from time to time, especially when our views are ignored and/or disrespected. The Paracast if off my viewing list. I'll leave it to the born again believers and (as the latest guest on Paratopia said) to young guys in their jockey shorts sitting in their mom's basement trying to "get a life" by living vicariously through internet persona's.

Note: your beef with Gene might be a gentleman's disagreement, but if you met him personally and he immediately started to twist your arm for money, you might take it more personally. The man (like all of us?) can be a real low life.

May 1, 2010 10:03 AM

Brownie said...

Gary - Fantastic, informative entry!! Indeed a diagnosis of MPD can ruin a life as can the use of hypnosis to retrieve whatever the hypnotizer wants to believe! The False Memory Syndrome site is a wealth of info!

CC - I was warned by Christopher O'Brien. I received an email and my profile now shows this 1/0 type of a thing. I dared to question O'Brien and am now labeled mentally ill by him. Oh well! And Gene warned me in that thread and the other about being banned. Could they make their bias of pro-Jacobs any more blatant? Geesh!

I've noticed some of the best (you included) have been bannd from paracast so if/when it happens to me, I'll be in good company.

Yet creeps like O'Brien, dyingsun, hoffeister and Schuler keep on trucking

- Ancient Alien Astronauts: Interview with Ken Feder
- Hayley Stevens' Lake Monster Mysteries
- Searching For Sasquatch
- The Zombie Autopsies
- Tracking the Manbeasts

COUNT GORE DE VOL'S DEVILISH PODCASTS

- The Bloody Ape & Jebediah Buzzard!
- Last man on Earth - Part 1
- Last Man on Earth - Part 2
- The Last Man on Earth - Part 3

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- Film Weekly podcast: Jamie Thraves on Treacle Jr and Bobby Fischer revisited – audio
- Film Weekly podcast: Jessica Chastain on Terrence Malick's Tree of Life - audio
- Film Weekly goes Huge with Johnny Harris
- Film Weekly podcast: Bridesmaids, and Putty Hill director Matt Porterfield

DOCTOR MADBLOOD

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- Doctor Madblood's Podcast: "30 Years of Madness: The Podcast"
- Doctor Madblood's Podcast Episode #22: "Dimitri Slept Here"

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- American Bullyism (1)
- anthropocentrism (1)
- anthropomorphism (1)
- argument from authority (1)
- Argument from Bloodbath (1)
- argument from ignorance (2)
- argument from omniscience (1)
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- David Jacobs (21)
- Doctor Madblood (1)
- Doctor Who (1)
- Emma Woods (31)
- ETH (3)
- Eugenics (2)

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Yet creeps like O'Brien, dyingsun, hollister and Schuler keep on trucking. When I backread the forum I was astounded at the swears and insults that Schuler and dyingsun were doling out, without anyone stopping them.

Well no one said life is fair or especially ufo/paranormal boards are fair. ;-)

May 1, 2010 8:55 PM

ChristChild said...

Brownie,

Yes, according to Gene, PERSONAL ATTACKS on the PF forum are grounds for being banned. But he really means any personal attacks on HIM or people he likes! Dyingsun (as perhaps you noticed) told me to "f**k off" when I defended Emma Woods and spoke back to David Biedny's verbally abusive temper tantrums. Gene looked the other way. I dared to confront David Biedny for calling me "bats**t insane" and was immediately banned. Ironically (and much to my amusement) David turned on Gene and started abusing HIM, demanding that people boycott PF! There is a God (smile).

I think you will find this is the norm on just about all paranormal forums. Perhaps all forums? The creator (publisher, as Gary calls the host) assumes ultimate control, and can be a very despotic god over his/her little creation. I keep telling myself to never again get involved.

Perhaps in a wierd way, I could ascribe my repeated visits to inane places like the PF forum to the paranormal trickster, as Jeff Ritzmann does. He says that when you try to leave the paranormal, it will draw you back in often using conflict as the pull. I think I have gone back to PF at times just hoping that I will witness some brilliant poster giving Gene his come-uppance, but that is impossible because the man has no ability to learn. Everything just bounces right off his mental firewall. But he is far from unique and probably is representative of each of us at some time or other. Nonetheless, I have zero respect for Gene. But again I am sure there is some projection at work there (where I place my inner horse's rearend upon him).

I am amazed that O'Brien feels he has the right to directly threaten you in an email. What hubris! I had a couple internet interviews with him downloaded to CD's. I threw them out today. I cannot tolerate his voice anymore, now that I know how arrogant and rude he can be. He is simply a short term guest host. He reminds me of this other guest host (Frank Warren?) who was pushing the old Aztec ufo crash myth. If anyone on the forum disagreed with him regarding the reality of Aztec, he actually told the person to just STOP LISTENING TO THE PARACAST! I thought "Of all the nerve! Someone disagrees with you - a short time guest host - and your response is to tell the person to stop listening to Gene's podcast?"

I agree with Jeff Ritzmann and Jeremy Vaeni that the people involved in ufology are vicious and insane. Only fools rush in where angels (sane people?) fear to tread.

The paranormal is not going to addict me to this nonsense.

May 1, 2010 9:15 PM

ChristChild said...

Brownie,

Don't forget "Tom from Hong Kong" another of the Jacob's Is God cultists who never fail to parrot Gene's mantra that Emma's tapes could be fraudulently manipulated to make America's Sweetheart (Dave Jacobs) look bad.

Look at it this way. Viewing this sort of thing is wonderful lab work for seeing how human belief systems twist and coerce certain behavior patterns and responses. Threaten a person's belief system and they will destroy you verbally, if not literally. The lesson? Begin to identify your own belief systems and attempt the process of dis-identification with these beliefs. In other words, go through the process of realizing that you are not your beliefs, your emotions or thoughts. You are the entity having these beliefs, emotions and thoughts. Few people get that far in life, but it is the very foundation of a truly spiritual way of life.

May 1, 2010 9:30 PM

ChristChild said...

Brownie,

Sunday Update: I understand you are taking Gene to task on his bias on PF regarding Emma Woods. Good for you! Nonetheless, you realize that Gene is a totally unethical man. He will never admit even the most blatant bias in terms of the treatment of vicious moderators and other "friends of the Paracast" on his forum, versus the great unwashed masses (that includes you, my dear!). I noticed that he arrogantly again proclaimed the Emma Woods case a total "yawn" with NO importance and NO implications for

Compartment in Hell

The Argument from Ignorance and Skeptical Omniscie...

How to Abduct Your More-Real-Than-Real Night Terro...

The Self-Hypnosis of David Jacobs

Interesting Short Net Bilbliography in Relation to...

Rasputin Returns: David Jacobs versus Emma Woods

- Extradition Act of 2003 (2)
- Faith-based communities (2)
- False Memory (3)
- falsifiability (1)
- fermi paradox (1)
- Fluffcasts (1)
- Flying+Saucer+Nukes Psyops (1)
- Friday Fakes (4)
- Gameplaying (1)
- Gary McKinnon (2)
- Gender Issues (1)
- Girl Who Saved Her Own Life (2)
- Grays (2)
- Ham and Egger Review (6)
- Human Subjects Research (2)
- Humanity Plus (1)
- Hybridization-Dehumanization (1)
- Hyperbolic Chamber (2)
- Hypnosis (7)
- hypnotic regression fraud (4)
- Immigration Laws (1)
- Jeff Ritzman (1)
- Jeremy Vaeni (1)
- Jungian Compensation Theory (2)
- Karl Marx (1)
- Madonna Complex (1)
- Mary Magdalene (1)
- mass hypnosis (1)
- Matt Graeber (10)
- MILABs (1)
- Miracle Man (2)
- MMORPG (1)
- Moderation policy (1)
- monkey trial (1)
- moon anomalies (1)
- MPD (3)
- Multiple Personality Disorder (4)
- Munchausen Syndrome By Proxy (1)
- Music (1)
- Nazi Super Race Fantasy (1)
- New Normal (1)
- Night Terror (2)
- Nora D'Amico (1)
- Paracast (3)
- Paranoid Porno (1)
- Paratopia (2)
- Perspectivalism (1)
- Psychosocial Hypothesis (1)
- Ray Kurzweil (1)
- Regan Lee (1)
- Reptilians (1)
- Repto-Religionists (1)
- Satan Shrinks of Texas (2)
- Satanic Ritual Abuse (2)
- Saucers of Mass Destruction (1)

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ufology. What does he base all this on? Personal investigation? Nope! He bases it 100% on the rebuttal to Emma offered by David Jacobs in his Paracast interview and on David Jacobs website. So if Jacobs says Emma is insane, so be it! If Jacobs says all her evidence is a pack of lies, so be it!

You cannot reason with such astonishing arrogance. Bear in mind (ageism moment pending) that Gene is an "old man" set in his ways. He has his little kingdom and he is happy residing over it. The fact that this is a cyber kingdom with favorite Court jesters and Aristocrats that number perhaps 10 or less is of no bearing to Gene on the power he thinks he wields.

This is such a wonderful human behavior study, like watching ants in an ant colony or mice in a maze (hmmm....internet forums as a form of "Who's Got the Cheese?").

Gene's Greek Chorus of Jacobs supporters constantly reassure him that he is fair and balanced (like Fox News), and anyone who disagrees is deemed mentally unstable or (worse yet) an intentional rabble rouser! On the massive scale, we can see this at play in China today where anyone who dares disagree with the totalitarian regime is immediately labeled a criminal and a trouble maker. Since Gene lives in Arizona, I wish he'd come out on his forum SUPPORTING the new bill to allow police to stop ANYONE at ANYTIME to ask for papers (my mind checks its library of classic black-white WW2 Nazi films) proving citizenship. I am sure no one with blonde hair and blue eyes need ever worry, but if your skin has the slightest brownish tint, be very afraid. Better carry a copy of your birth certificate at all times. I only bring this up because if Gene were to support this, it would be hilarious watching the sycophants and Greek Chorus fall into line, e.g., DyingSun, Archie Bedford, Tom from Hong Kong, Chris O'Brien, Paul Kimball, et al). I can see all the members of the inner King's Court pressing their THANKS button to make sure their names are there supporting Gene.

Human nature is so fascinating! Frustrating also, but once you step back, you can see the entire history of the human race being played out in Gene's little kingdom known as the Paracast Forum.

May 2, 2010 9:32 AM

ChristChild said...

Well, I promised to let all this go. Did I? Nope! I am addicted to the paranormal forum! Help me! We need a Betty Ford Clinic for this affliction!

Seriously, as tough love towards myself, I am posting yet again to commit to not posting again. Say what? I will only post again if Gary writes another blog on a fascinating subject about the paranormal. But I will not write again about the Para-Whats-It forum and it's seedy host.

May 2, 2010 11:58 AM

Gary Haden, a.k.a Daktari Impossible said...

I feel your pain, CC.

May 3, 2010 8:33 AM

Brownie said...

CC - Well now that Gene S. locked the hugely popular thread that was embarassing him, his forum cronies and the good Dr. Jacobs....the paracast forum is kind of ho-hum with not much shakin'. ;-)

I too read about Jeff R. leaving the paratopia forum. I'd read it now and then and only recently posted a bit. I was concerned by the cryptic message of the "trickster" acting up in Jeff's life.

That sort of thing can happen in these type of liminal matter that we become immersed in. John Keel warned and wrote about. And later on George Hansen and Patrick Harper wrote about it too.

I think this is why we see paranormal investigators do protection work (whether through traditional religions or non-traditional). A grounding/centering/protecting/cleansing ritual performed as often as necessary perhaps. I know a whole family that uses sage and other protective prayers and rituals. They've had lots of anomalous encounters over the years that worsened from the curious to malevolent - ghosts, poltergeists, unexplained illness, ufo sightings, visitations. Since performing native-American rituals - on a regular basis - they're feeling better, stronger and the manifestations have lessoned.

May 4, 2010 7:33 PM

ChristChild said...

Brownie,

Yeah, Gene is amazing. I noticed that the thread he locked has more than

- Science Fiction (1)
- scientific egomania (2)
- Scopes Trial (1)
- Second Skin (1)
- Self-Injury (1)
- Sideways Worlds (2)
- Singularity (1)
- skepticism (1)
- skeptics (3)
- Sleep Disorders (1)
- Source A (1)
- Special Compartment in Hell (4)
- Spooky Chronister (1)
- Spring Shadows Glen (1)
- SRA (1)
- Starlost (1)
- Super Bowl Predictions (1)
- Survival of the Fittest (1)
- T-Rex Reptilians (1)
- The Final Solution (1)
- The Pickerings (1)
- Thugs of the Universe (1)
- Toxic Slop (1)
- Transhumans (2)
- TV Horror Hosts (1)
- UFO Papacy (1)
- UFO Religion (1)
- Ufology (1)
- UFOOLogy (2)
- unbelievable (1)
- Virginia Creepers (1)
- World War III (1)

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28,000 views, which is astonishing! Any other thread on his rinky dink forum averages at most a couple thousand, and the general viewing number is a couple hundred.

The fact that he would lock out any further comments on what is the all time most popular thread on his entire forum illustrates his bias. It also shows a tremendous lack of business acumen. Here the guy is making a living off his podcast and should only want to drum up more interest in his silly forum, yet he locks down the most popular thread in its history because he does not like being contradicted in his view that Emma MUST have doctored the tapes since they make his toyboy Jacobs seem incompetent, if not criminally insane!

Well, anyway....old news.

I have a great respect if not fear for the paranormal. As a young man, I seemed to draw paranormal events to me. I moved into 2 houses that were haunted (and others witnessed the events so I am not delusional), was actually "possessed" on one occasion when I went to a New Age class in healing and the instructor invited each of us to "open up" and invite an elemental spirit to join with us. The rationale was that this do-gooder spirit would use its energy to heal through us. Yes, I was naive. I felt a burning fire rushing through my internal organs and cried out in pain. The teacher (who I now see as a very unethical man) put one hand on my forehead and another on my solar-plexus and "drew out" this being. The teacher was pretty glib about it, saying that at times the elemental spirit cannot adjust its energy to co-exist with a human. THANK GOD!!! I left and never went back. I've also had close encounters and related bizarre happenings. I put an end to all of it in the manner you describe - a ritual but mine was based on a Christian motiff. It worked, and I have not been troubled in over 15 years. While I don't mind some arm chair research into this subject, I want NONE OF IT in my life. It can destroy you.

May 7, 2010 9:01 PM

Brownie said...

Isn't that amazing, CC? The thread brings in more than 28,000 views and Steinberg locks it!

And now he claims Emma wasn't banned.....but his 'I LOVE YOU GENE'-posters were freely using the "banned" word in their posts about Emma, _to_ him! But, he chastens me about the word in the Donna Bassett thread (Contactees sub-forum/paracast) What a pill he is!!

CC, I agree many newage (and other) spiritual teachers are not learned about the matter of negative entities and how they can affect and/or attach to our lives. Often they think everything is 'love and light'.....but, it is not.

I understand where you're coming from - re. cleansing/protecting/warding off via Christian methods. Ann Druffel's book on this (contains many experiencers reports with varied belief systems) was an eye opener for me.

The book is 'How to Defend Yourself Against Alien Abduction'. Druffel's hypothesis is that aliens (the common ones -such as greys, insectoids, reptillians) may not be ET, but earthbound entities that live in another dimension and poke in and out occasionally. They don't belong here and we don't belong where they usually are.

May 13, 2010 11:01 PM

ChristChild said...

Brownie, why do you indirectly support Gene by continuing to post on his forum? You are adding to his "stats" that he uses to help sell the show to advertizers. Certainly, your time and intelligence can be much better spent on other forums and websites. Just my opinion. Even if I was not banned, I would not LOWER myself to post on his pathetic forum anymore. I would not do anything to support this man. I see that he has yet another sob story about being financially wronged by someone. When will people wise up? This man always has a NEW sob story available for why the general public should send him money. I live in Arizona near Gene and the moment I contacted him (assuming he was a nice guy) he hit me up for money! He claimed his wife had screwed up their bank account and someeone took all their money, they had no groceries in the house and were on the verge of starvation, so I needed to give them cash right away! I was pretty upset by his heavy handed shysterism, and became very bitter. He is a con man. Stop supporting him with your presence!!!!!!!!!

May 14, 2010 10:11 PM

Brownie said...

^ CC, I don't post that often enough to significantly pump up Gene's stats. I post occasionally.

I read Gene's thread (and the link to his tech site, which is more of the same)

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begging for money! OMG! I didnt' know until very recently!

I too suspect he's a "con man". The story of the mystery friend that got into his bank account and the vengeful acquaintance of his sister-in-law that took money from her.....I mean, come on! This is stuff that wouldn't even make the cut for a daytime soap opera! It's bull$$$$!!! And fools are giving him money! No wonder the badly behaved there have carte blanche approval to post anything they want, disregarding the forum rules! The Gold Standard is The Double Standard!

May 19, 2010 3:35 AM

thomas said...

I have been a longtime listener to the Paracast and have enjoyed many of their shows.
Awhile back I started getting weekly emails from Gene Steinberg begging for money.
I was expecting updates on guests,comments on various paranormal topics,ect.
I never expected to be bombarded with emails begging for money,I creeped me out.I'm just as sympathetic as the next guy but I work too hard for my money to give it away to some online personality.If he can afford internet access and to do a podcast every week he is not starving and I'd say his priorities are way out of whack.
I now have heard David Biedneys interview and I honestly think it may be closer to the truth than Gene's version of reality.
Im sorry to say but the Paracast is the fool's gold standard of paranormal podcasting.
Thomas

May 29, 2010 7:32 AM

Rich said...

Gene is a beggar. I signed up for the paracast twitter feed and all I got was Gene saying "If youre wondering if I still need money the answer is yes". Gene, stop doing the paracast and get a 9-5 like the rest of us. I called BS on Gene in the forums and got banned. Biedny WAS the paracast and since he's gone, so am I.

June 8, 2010 5:45 PM

Brownie said...

Thomas and Rich - OMG! It's systemic in UFO Watchdog/Paracast.....he's shilling the show and forum to sucker money out of people! And the amount of people who've been banned, is very high indeed!

Yes, good for you Rich for calling Gene a beggar! Goodgod! Twitterng someone for money!

I agree with your suggestion Rich, that Steinberg needs to get a job. I seem middle-aged men and women working at fast-food restaurants and as cashiers at discount dept. stores in my area during these bad economic times. If these people can swallow their pride and do the right thing by not being beggars than Steinberg should give it a shot and ditch his sense-of-entitlement of leeching off of people. Hard work develops character, something he appears to lack.

June 16, 2010 10:11 PM

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