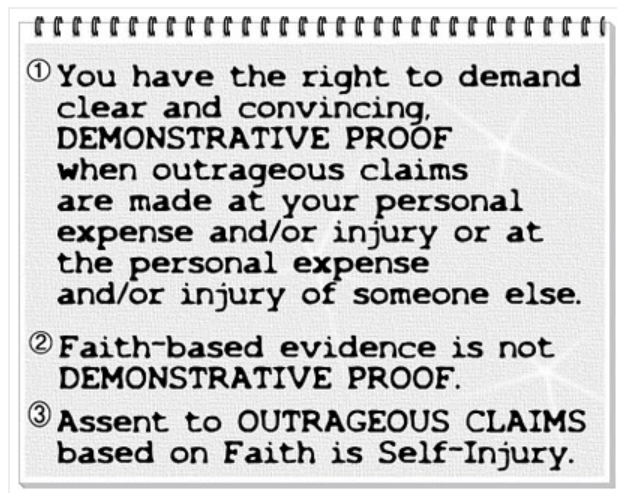


Speculative Realms

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2011

Rights of the Not Easily Manipulated



Time for

MUFON to Grow Some Horns or Dissolve

by Gary Haden

There was a rumor circulating in paranormal media that MUFON had "fired" affiliated researchers who collected evidence via the practice of hypnosis.

I don't think MUFON possesses such a sense of responsibility. This is an organization that counts among its members makers of tin-foil hats, remote viewers, and various and sundry other witch doctors deploying voodoo research modalities that disgrace the organization and make it the deserved target of ridicule in the mainstream.

One of its members once asked Emma Woods if she were an alien-human hybrid.

If that is the extent of analytical ability in the organization, it is justifiably doomed.

The object of research meant to verify the extraterrestrial hypothesis is production of an alien being. That is how high the burden of proof is for the hypothesis.

That whine you just heard is from the Choir Section of the ETH's faith-based wing. They complain that the beings are highly advanced and we humans are just too stupid to live, much less to detect and procure demonstrative evidence of Alien life.

That's a pitiful excuse. If that's the case, we need to find someone else for the job, needn't we?

Because, the fact of the matter is, lackadaisical standards of proof in ETH research, which heretofore have stopped light years short of

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demanding the production of an alien being, have produced abominable results.

How high the bar in research is set determines many outcomes. One of the outcomes of setting the bar too low is ethical catastrophe. We've seen epidemics of ethical catastrophe in this community and it's clear that, unless something is done, we'll continue to be treated to them.

Rights of the Not Easily Manipulated:

You have the right to think.

You have the right to read what Skeptics write.

You have the right to falsify before you verify.

That there is an alien-abduction hypnosis scandal wracking the community has a good deal to do with setting the bar way too low with regard to what constitutes proof. In alien abduction hypnosis, THERE IS NO BURDEN OF PROOF.

It is telling that the gurus involved in that scandal refuse to allow other disciplines to inspect their results and serially ignore demands to produce the evidence backing up such claims as their knowing where the aliens are, what the aliens look like, and WHO they are.

They're in perpetual flight from responsibility. They are responsible, like the rest of us, for proving their claims, are they not? If they're not, why not? Why do they merit an exemption where the NASA engineer would be fired if she asserted a similar exemption?

Heretofore, MUFON, like its adoring puppy the paranormal media, has been a collection of gutless wonders with big mouths, a body composed inordinately of angry white men, drowning in macho-chest thumping and impotent leaps of faith. They think that by aping a hard-charging mountain gorilla the display constitutes clear and convincing, demonstrative proof of alien life. It isn't surprising that the testosterone-laced UFOlogical Community turns up steroids in their test results or that they deem uppity female Carol Rainey, who recently blew the whistle on abduction guru Hopkins, a disgruntled housefrau.

The problem with Rainey isn't that she was once married to creative artist Hopkins. It is that she is female. Not only that, but she has a mind that, frankly, delves 20,000 leagues below the depth of insight in male UFO gurudom and blows it directly to the moon without passing go.

The lack of Girl Power at MUFON and in the greater UFOlogical "Community" is part and parcel of the current testicular cancer metastasizing in the organization. Its widespread systemic failure is due in part to its pervasive, empty, and tedious macho posturing. As with everything else, MUFON is fifty years behind the times in gender equity.

It isn't 1947 anymore.

If your hypothesis is that extraterrestrial beings walk among us, you are honor bound to produce the alien being. That's the proof required. To

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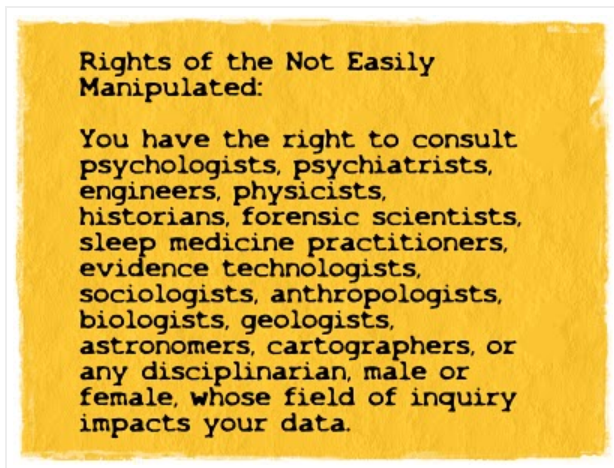
assert any different standard is the height of irresponsibility. If you're not responsible for producing proof for your claims, you're asserting entitlement to ripping minds into shreds and paradoxically that is precisely what one practitioner of quack science attempted to do. Irresponsibly lowering the bar to ground level with regard to the burden of proof inevitably leads to abominable behavior in the laboratory.

The acquisition of knowledge is inextricably linked to ethical practices.

We've seen irresponsible behavior that devolved into abuse. The odds favor the notion that we will continue to see that.

It would be nice to see MUFON take responsibility and do something about it.

But I'm not holding my breath.



Posted by Gary Haden at 6:44 AM

1 comments:



Brownie said...

It does seem a bit odd that the fired four were all middle-aged females. Now it could be coincidence, but then again.....

Some people haven't taken well to females in the ufological field. Your post brings to mind a discussion in a now defunct forum a few years back. A few of us (males and females) were having an interesting, productive discussion on the investigators and writers of the 1960s and 1970s.

Among them, we were discussing Jim and Coral Lorenzen. I have some vintage books of theirs and the verbatim encounters (including probably the first recorded out-of-body abduction of people taken from a car, by mantis-like beings) is fascinating and chilling. At the time, no one was writing this sort of abduction/kidnapping because it was so outre, even for the very new field of abduction research.

Well, wouldn't you know out of nowhere PK (of the trio mentioned in your podcast essay earlier) joined in and informed us that Coral Lorenzen was a racist! Huh? How would anyone of his age even know that personally, as she's long passed on? No relating who he heard it from..... No proof presented.

I contacted someone who's now over 70 and has been involved in ufology for sometime. He informed me that though he wasn't a personal friend of hers, that he never knew her to be racist nor had heard of such an accusation.

So, women (even dead women) in ufology seem to have a different standard held to them by some (even relatively young men) in the field.

~ Susan

February 11, 2011 4:23 PM

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