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# Little grey aliens split Ivy League

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- 5 MAY 1995

By Charles Laurence in New York

LITTLE, grey, bug-eyed aliens who kidnap humans for sexual experiments are at the centre of the latest, and unlikeliest, academic row to break out at the Ivy League university of Harvard.

The aliens and their sexual activities were the subject of a best-selling book by Dr John Mack, a professor of psychology at Harvard Medical School.

The cause of the row is an investigation into whether Dr Mack's involvement with them has brought the school into disrepute, and whether he had "maintained Harvard's standards of scholarly investigation".

Academics throughout the Ivy League are now dividing into those who call for his ousting, and those who defend academic freedom, however bizarre its consequences.

Dr Mack makes clear in his book, *Abduction: Human Encounters With Aliens*, that he has few doubts that the creatures from outer space exist. He accepts as truth the stories of 13 research subjects who told him of their abductions and adventures as the aliens seduced them

into donating eggs and sperm for their experiments.

Dean Daniel Tosteson of the Medical School set up a three-man investigative team a year ago, and the *New York Times* said yesterday that its report "vigorously" defends Dr Mack's freedom to investigate any subject he chooses, but deplores his methods of scholarship.

The commission said he should have published his research in an academic journal before making it into a bestseller, and should have engaged a psychiatrist to evaluate the subjects and their lurid tales.

Among the cases in Dr Mack's book was that of "Ed", a 40 year-old technician. He reported that he was "seduced by a female being" with long silvery hair and large, black eyes without pupils or irises.

He said she extracted his sperm through a suction tube, telling him she needed it to "create special babies".

Dr Mack, who is continuing his research, has hired lawyers to defend him. "It's an issue of academic freedom," one lawyer said.