

Medical Evidence for NDEs

by Pim van Lommel

A Reply to Shermer

The Background

In his "Skeptic" column in *Scientific American* in March, 2003, Michael Shermer cited a research study published in a leading medical journal

that argued the mind and brain could separate. Yet the study's authors placed it in a prominent place during a period of cardiac arrest.

"His use of this study to support his conclusions is a classic case of cherry-picking."

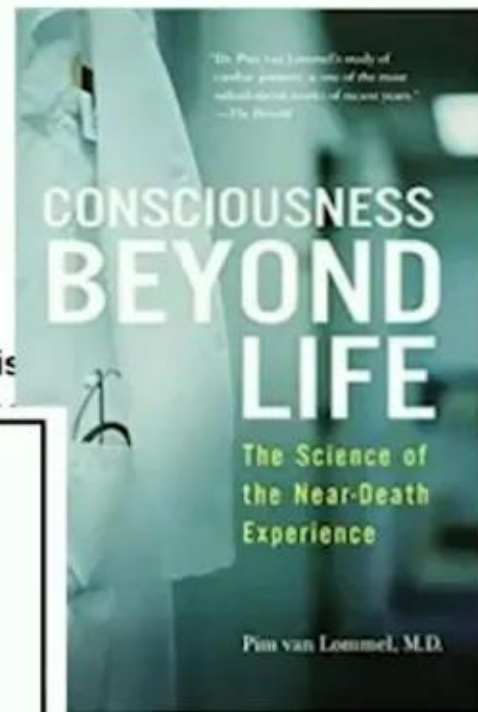
Journal like the *Scientific American*

conclusions.



[Shermer] asserted this study "delivered a blow" to the idea that the mind and the brain could separate. Yet the researchers argued the exact opposite

We performed our prospective study in 107 survivors of cardiac arrest to study the frequency, the cause and the content of near-



my opinion, scientific
how thoroughly peer-
reviewer is because I am
survivors of cardiac arrest;
; from the effect of
experiences as well as with his

1
00:00:07,509 --> 00:00:03,700
okay you remember this one right yeah so

2
00:00:10,280 --> 00:00:07,519
dr. PIM van Lommel writes this paper

3
00:00:17,359 --> 00:00:10,290
Michael Shermer Scientific American says

4
00:00:23,269 --> 00:00:17,369
hey this thing strikes a blow against in

5
00:00:26,029 --> 00:00:23,279
my opinion no you can't you can't the

6
00:00:31,820 --> 00:00:26,039
guy when you have when you write a

7
00:00:34,990 --> 00:00:31,830
science paper it when I'm sorry saying

8
00:00:39,080 --> 00:00:35,000
that he thinks that it supports the

9
00:00:40,700 --> 00:00:39,090
given the modus position of only brain

10
00:00:43,160 --> 00:00:40,710
and oh my I didn't say that I said

11
00:00:45,830 --> 00:00:43,170
that's my opinion no what you said is

12
00:00:48,770 --> 00:00:45,840
right up on the screen read that this

13
00:00:53,209 --> 00:00:48,780

study delivers a blow to the idea that

14

00:00:55,459 --> 00:00:53,219

mind every separate it delivers a blow

15

00:00:58,430 --> 00:00:55,469

yeah that's right that would be like me

16

00:01:01,459 --> 00:00:58,440

saying your book heavens and earth that

17

00:01:04,250 --> 00:01:01,469

heavens on earth delivers a blow against

18

00:01:07,130 --> 00:01:04,260

the neurological model that

19

00:01:09,109 --> 00:01:07,140

consciousness is tight yeah no I would

20

00:01:12,969 --> 00:01:09,119

be could do that I could do that I could

21

00:01:15,890 --> 00:01:12,979

do that but I would be misrepresenting

22

00:01:17,810 --> 00:01:15,900

exposition I wouldn't be fair to my

23

00:01:20,749 --> 00:01:17,820

audience I if I told my audience

24

00:01:22,460 --> 00:01:20,759

hey Michael Shermer thinks that's not

25

00:01:25,100 --> 00:01:22,470

the case but I think that's the case

26
00:01:27,590 --> 00:01:25,110
that's one thing but to say that his

27
00:01:29,630 --> 00:01:27,600
book without putting into context

28
00:01:31,850 --> 00:01:29,640
delivers a poll and and the evidence of

29
00:01:34,399 --> 00:01:31,860
this is clear I mean you have dr. Pinto

30
00:01:37,370 --> 00:01:34,409
mom will come in at you saying hey this

31
00:01:39,710 --> 00:01:37,380
is this is completely wrong my research

32
00:01:42,289 --> 00:01:39,720
argues exactly the opposite but I don't

33
00:01:44,480 --> 00:01:42,299
want to go he may argue for that but I

34
00:01:46,639 --> 00:01:44,490
think his research points in the

35
00:01:49,370 --> 00:01:46,649
opposite direction it does not point to

36
00:01:51,859 --> 00:01:49,380
consciousness beyond lives it points to

37
00:01:55,039 --> 00:01:51,869
powerful neurological experiences that

38
00:01:57,889 --> 00:01:55,049

people misrepresent as floating off into

39

00:01:59,810 --> 00:01:57,899

the ether somewhere so let's get at that

40

00:02:01,100 --> 00:01:59,820

let's tell me what you think in your

41

00:02:03,649 --> 00:02:01,110

opinions that you studied this

42

00:02:06,830 --> 00:02:03,659

extensively when the person is up by the

43

00:02:09,710 --> 00:02:06,840

ceiling looking down what is the medium

44

00:02:11,630 --> 00:02:09,720

or platform that olds the thoughts and

45

00:02:13,270 --> 00:02:11,640

memories and and how do you see

46

00:02:15,640 --> 00:02:13,280

something without a without a

47

00:02:18,670 --> 00:02:15,650

visual apparatus without afraid how does

48

00:02:21,160 --> 00:02:18,680

an ethereal spirit see anything again

49

00:02:23,650 --> 00:02:21,170

and I'd repeat myself but I really feel

50

00:02:27,930 --> 00:02:23,660

strongly about this is that I don't

51
00:02:30,910 --> 00:02:27,940
think we have to to falsify the existing

52
00:02:33,610 --> 00:02:30,920
model of mind equals brain and we should

53
00:02:36,190 --> 00:02:33,620
never look beyond that is a huge step

54
00:02:37,900 --> 00:02:36,200
and to take that step allows us to then

55
00:02:39,250 --> 00:02:37,910
begin to answer those questions I don't

56
00:02:41,650 --> 00:02:39,260
think we have to have those questions

57
00:02:43,720 --> 00:02:41,660
answered in order to say this is what