



# MANAGING THE MEDICALLY MYSTERIOUS

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CHARLES F. EMMONS

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**SOCIETY  
FOR  
SCIENTIFIC  
EXPLORATION**

1  
00:00:09,710 --> 00:00:07,910  
etc now it's Charles Emmons who's a

2  
00:00:12,049 --> 00:00:09,720  
sociologist you know I think he's going

3  
00:00:15,620 --> 00:00:12,059  
to help us with a different kind of

4  
00:00:24,940 --> 00:00:19,400  
hi everybody can you hear me okay okay

5  
00:00:28,940 --> 00:00:24,950  
is alternate healing science is it

6  
00:00:30,499 --> 00:00:28,950  
paranormal is it spiritual thank you

7  
00:00:33,229 --> 00:00:30,509  
very much Gettysburg College for the

8  
00:00:37,070 --> 00:00:33,239  
research money I got interested in this

9  
00:00:39,500 --> 00:00:37,080  
starting in 2013 when Jack hunter the

10  
00:00:42,200 --> 00:00:39,510  
editor of peer anthropology led a group

11  
00:00:45,439 --> 00:00:42,210  
of us to the Esalen Institute for a

12  
00:00:47,569 --> 00:00:45,449  
conference on survival s alone is a

13  
00:00:49,610 --> 00:00:47,579

great place to study altered states of

14

00:00:52,639 --> 00:00:49,620

consciousness you can get into one

15

00:00:53,180 --> 00:00:52,649

yourself in the the hot tub the communal

16

00:00:56,060 --> 00:00:53,190

hot tubs

17

00:00:58,100 --> 00:00:56,070

and you can also study alternative

18

00:01:00,830 --> 00:00:58,110

medicine a couple of really good books

19

00:01:04,249 --> 00:01:00,840

on the culture of esslyn are Jeff

20

00:01:07,820 --> 00:01:04,259

cripples Esalen America and the religion

21

00:01:11,719 --> 00:01:07,830

of no religion and David kaisers how the

22

00:01:13,510 --> 00:01:11,729

hippies saved physics so here we are at

23

00:01:16,430 --> 00:01:13,520

the Center for theory and research

24

00:01:19,609 --> 00:01:16,440

talking about evidence for survival and

25

00:01:22,520 --> 00:01:19,619

at the end Deb Frost one of the major

26

00:01:24,830 --> 00:01:22,530

donors said how do we get this stuff

27

00:01:26,570 --> 00:01:24,840

about consciousness into the culture

28

00:01:28,749 --> 00:01:26,580

what are some practical implications

29

00:01:32,450 --> 00:01:28,759

sound familiar

30

00:01:35,840 --> 00:01:32,460

Concilium aha

31

00:01:39,289 --> 00:01:35,850

I had a sabbatical title before I had a

32

00:01:42,800 --> 00:01:39,299

research design paranormal practice

33

00:01:46,760 --> 00:01:42,810

using the unusual okay then what would

34

00:01:49,639 --> 00:01:46,770

that be I remembered Dean Radin telling

35

00:01:52,370 --> 00:01:49,649

me in an interview that he was moving

36

00:01:54,620 --> 00:01:52,380

toward publishing more in medical

37

00:01:57,920 --> 00:01:54,630

journals and I thought about Sarah

38

00:02:00,100 --> 00:01:57,930

McKeon's book everyday spirituality in

39

00:02:02,870 --> 00:02:00,110

which she talks about how individuals

40

00:02:05,600 --> 00:02:02,880

take this and that from here and there

41

00:02:07,760 --> 00:02:05,610

to fill their own needs in their own

42

00:02:10,609 --> 00:02:07,770

personal lives Sarah

43

00:02:13,759 --> 00:02:10,619

studied three spiritualist churches in

44

00:02:16,580 --> 00:02:13,769

stoke-on-trent in the West Midlands in

45

00:02:18,710 --> 00:02:16,590

England and I thought I could do that

46

00:02:20,630 --> 00:02:18,720

I've studied spiritualist churches and

47

00:02:24,580 --> 00:02:20,640

this would be a good way to start a

48

00:02:27,020 --> 00:02:24,590

snowball sample of spiritual healers I

49

00:02:29,190 --> 00:02:27,030

ended up interviewing fifty-three people

50

00:02:32,400 --> 00:02:29,200

and doing lots of participant

51  
00:02:35,850 --> 00:02:32,410  
reservation in the UK in England and

52  
00:02:37,710 --> 00:02:35,860  
Wales and in the United States in

53  
00:02:39,210 --> 00:02:37,720  
different places in Pennsylvania New

54  
00:02:42,780 --> 00:02:39,220  
York and Ohio

55  
00:02:45,390 --> 00:02:42,790  
I have previous research that relates to

56  
00:02:47,610 --> 00:02:45,400  
this guided by spirit is about spirit

57  
00:02:50,040 --> 00:02:47,620  
mediums and science and spirit is about

58  
00:02:53,430 --> 00:02:50,050  
consciousness both of those with my wife

59  
00:02:56,370 --> 00:02:53,440  
Penelope and then Chinese ghost this is

60  
00:02:58,199 --> 00:02:56,380  
the 2017 revised edition they all have

61  
00:03:00,630 --> 00:02:58,209  
something to do with spiritual healing

62  
00:03:03,870 --> 00:03:00,640  
and for this project I have a chapter

63  
00:03:06,539 --> 00:03:03,880

paranormal medicine in darrell Catherine

64

00:03:11,520 --> 00:03:06,549

edited volume the paranormal and popular

65

00:03:13,830 --> 00:03:11,530

culture for rutledge i do a sociology of

66

00:03:17,670 --> 00:03:13,840

knowledge so I want to find out what's

67

00:03:19,920 --> 00:03:17,680

going on with the mainstream and how

68

00:03:21,960 --> 00:03:19,930

they manage the medically mysterious but

69

00:03:25,199 --> 00:03:21,970

especially I emphasize what's happening

70

00:03:28,380 --> 00:03:25,209

with practitioners and users so my main

71

00:03:32,180 --> 00:03:28,390

research question is what is considered

72

00:03:36,210 --> 00:03:32,190

scientific paranormal or spiritual about

73

00:03:38,430 --> 00:03:36,220

alternative medicine and both for the

74

00:03:42,479 --> 00:03:38,440

you know the mainstream integrative and

75

00:03:45,800 --> 00:03:42,489

the the more spiritual practitioners and

76

00:03:49,229 --> 00:03:45,810

users this is not my question

77

00:03:51,680 --> 00:03:49,239

does it work and how does it work but if

78

00:03:54,870 --> 00:03:51,690

you're curious about that and who isn't

79

00:03:59,190 --> 00:03:54,880

then you could read sociologist Mary

80

00:04:00,720 --> 00:03:59,200

rookies history of attempts to test

81

00:04:03,229 --> 00:04:00,730

alternative medicines and the

82

00:04:05,729 --> 00:04:03,239

methodological problems in doing that

83

00:04:07,920 --> 00:04:05,739

you could see how transcendental

84

00:04:09,840 --> 00:04:07,930

meditation came out of a spiritual

85

00:04:12,390 --> 00:04:09,850

tradition but then got studied

86

00:04:15,750 --> 00:04:12,400

scientifically in the lab at Harvard

87

00:04:18,420 --> 00:04:15,760

starting in 1968 with dr. Herbert Benson

88

00:04:20,430 --> 00:04:18,430

now later on he did talk about spiritual

89

00:04:21,839 --> 00:04:20,440

aspects of meditation but that's not

90

00:04:25,500 --> 00:04:21,849

what he was doing to begin with

91

00:04:28,770 --> 00:04:25,510

you could also read sociologist Bill

92

00:04:31,589 --> 00:04:28,780

Bengston and how he deals with healing

93

00:04:35,070 --> 00:04:31,599

hands on healing of mice with cancer in

94

00:04:38,550 --> 00:04:35,080

the laboratory you could read Beverly

95

00:04:41,100 --> 00:04:38,560

Rubik if you're a healer she'll put you

96

00:04:42,350 --> 00:04:41,110

in a small dark space and measure the

97

00:04:45,709 --> 00:04:42,360

photons coming out of your

98

00:04:49,879 --> 00:04:45,719

energy fingers you could read amongst

99

00:04:52,550 --> 00:04:49,889

butters so for example with Julia Moss

100

00:04:54,100 --> 00:04:52,560

bridge he wrote transcendent mind and

101

00:04:57,290 --> 00:04:54,110

part of that talks about the

102

00:04:59,480 --> 00:04:57,300

meta-analyses that support the efficacy

103

00:05:03,260 --> 00:04:59,490

of long distance healing distance

104

00:05:05,600 --> 00:05:03,270

healing you could read sociologist Jim

105

00:05:07,969 --> 00:05:05,610

McLennan wondrous healing in which he

106

00:05:12,920 --> 00:05:07,979

explains shamanic healing in terms of

107

00:05:15,019 --> 00:05:12,930

placebo and hypnotizability what I do is

108

00:05:17,689 --> 00:05:15,029

look at the importance of the the

109

00:05:20,179 --> 00:05:17,699

sociological anthropological context of

110

00:05:23,990 --> 00:05:20,189

this placebo is partly a social

111

00:05:25,640 --> 00:05:24,000

phenomenon they'll have an impact on

112

00:05:29,540 --> 00:05:25,650

whatever objectively might be happening

113

00:05:31,399 --> 00:05:29,550

and also legitimacy and beliefs of

114

00:05:36,769 --> 00:05:31,409

practitioners are going to have an

115

00:05:38,839 --> 00:05:36,779

impact on what is actually used the

116

00:05:40,760 --> 00:05:38,849

phrase alternative medicine is already

117

00:05:43,129 --> 00:05:40,770

culturally relative so that I

118

00:05:45,350 --> 00:05:43,139

interviewed a woman from Peru who said

119

00:05:47,300 --> 00:05:45,360

this is an alternative this is just our

120

00:05:49,930 --> 00:05:47,310

medicine this is our indigenous medicine

121

00:05:53,149 --> 00:05:49,940

we don't consider it alternative

122

00:05:56,570 --> 00:05:53,159

acupuncture you know Chinese context is

123

00:05:59,059 --> 00:05:56,580

not alternative medicine it's part of

124

00:06:01,730 --> 00:05:59,069

traditional Chinese scholarly scientific

125

00:06:06,469 --> 00:06:01,740

medicine and even between the United

126

00:06:08,839 --> 00:06:06,479

States and the UK midwifery is rather

127

00:06:12,649 --> 00:06:08,849

alternative in the United States but not

128

00:06:14,629 --> 00:06:12,659

in England especially not in Wales we

129

00:06:16,969 --> 00:06:14,639

can look at this at the macro level and

130

00:06:18,619 --> 00:06:16,979

the micro level at the macro we look at

131

00:06:21,860 --> 00:06:18,629

the institution of medicine and medical

132

00:06:24,469 --> 00:06:21,870

schools and medical journals on the

133

00:06:29,409 --> 00:06:24,479

micro level we would be looking at what

134

00:06:32,329 --> 00:06:29,419

individual practitioners what individual

135

00:06:37,149 --> 00:06:32,339

excuse me what individual practitioners

136

00:06:40,189 --> 00:06:37,159

and users do and that's my emphasis and

137

00:06:42,649 --> 00:06:40,199

the institution of medicine we moved

138

00:06:46,850 --> 00:06:42,659

from alternative to complementary to

139

00:06:50,079 --> 00:06:46,860

integrative which indicates in some way

140

00:06:54,019 --> 00:06:50,089

a kind of progression toward a greater

141

00:06:55,579 --> 00:06:54,029

incorporation into the mainstream and we

142

00:06:56,180 --> 00:06:55,589

would look at what's happening with the

143

00:06:59,330 --> 00:06:56,190

National in

144

00:07:02,960 --> 00:06:59,340

suits of health and when we noticed that

145

00:07:04,790 --> 00:07:02,970

both Harvard and Yale have Integrative

146

00:07:09,170 --> 00:07:04,800

Medicine in the medical schools we know

147

00:07:13,610 --> 00:07:09,180

something's happening but it's far from

148

00:07:16,280 --> 00:07:13,620

equal so there's still negative stuff in

149

00:07:19,190 --> 00:07:16,290

medical journals about alternative

150

00:07:23,200 --> 00:07:19,200

medicine and a lot of the spiritual

151  
00:07:25,640 --> 00:07:23,210  
things are just reframed as placebo and

152  
00:07:27,350 --> 00:07:25,650  
if you are going to get alternative

153  
00:07:29,090 --> 00:07:27,360  
procedures a lot of times they're done

154  
00:07:31,670 --> 00:07:29,100  
by volunteers so for example in one

155  
00:07:33,800 --> 00:07:31,680  
Hospital I observed before going into

156  
00:07:35,540 --> 00:07:33,810  
surgery yes you could get essential oils

157  
00:07:38,750 --> 00:07:35,550  
but they would be administrated

158  
00:07:41,440 --> 00:07:38,760  
administered by a volunteer and not by

159  
00:07:46,270 --> 00:07:41,450  
somebody of higher professional status

160  
00:07:50,480 --> 00:07:46,280  
so again I want to know what's happening

161  
00:07:52,700 --> 00:07:50,490  
with people who see it as scientific how

162  
00:07:54,590 --> 00:07:52,710  
is that being legitimated but also want

163  
00:07:56,960 --> 00:07:54,600

to see the spiritual that is more

164

00:08:01,700 --> 00:07:56,970

important to a lot of alternative

165

00:08:04,070 --> 00:08:01,710

practitioners and users you gonna say I

166

00:08:06,770 --> 00:08:04,080

told you so but I found that not many

167

00:08:09,200 --> 00:08:06,780

people could respond to framing things

168

00:08:11,720 --> 00:08:09,210

in terms of the paranormal for one thing

169

00:08:14,710 --> 00:08:11,730

they would associate the paranormal with

170

00:08:16,880 --> 00:08:14,720

goofy pop culture images of ghosts and

171

00:08:19,640 --> 00:08:16,890

see how it was relevant to what I was

172

00:08:22,940 --> 00:08:19,650

asking or they would say the paranormal

173

00:08:24,980 --> 00:08:22,950

is tomorrow's science or they would say

174

00:08:26,740 --> 00:08:24,990

the paranormal is already today's

175

00:08:29,150 --> 00:08:26,750

science we can explain these things

176

00:08:31,240 --> 00:08:29,160

scientifically they thought in terms of

177

00:08:34,339 --> 00:08:31,250

quantum physics or subtle energies

178

00:08:36,440 --> 00:08:34,349

here's somebody who used all three

179

00:08:37,130 --> 00:08:36,450

perspectives science paranormal and

180

00:08:40,339 --> 00:08:37,140

spiritual

181

00:08:43,130 --> 00:08:40,349

this is Edie Edwards who says he does

182

00:08:45,800 --> 00:08:43,140

bio intrinsic resonant energy work and

183

00:08:48,470 --> 00:08:45,810

the scientific part according to him is

184

00:08:50,480 --> 00:08:48,480

that he manipulates electrical energies

185

00:08:52,550 --> 00:08:50,490

but he says there's a paranormal part

186

00:08:57,250 --> 00:08:52,560

because when he's tested in

187

00:09:01,670 --> 00:08:59,630

instruments at a distance while he's

188

00:09:03,680 --> 00:09:01,680

inside a Faraday box but he also

189

00:09:06,079 --> 00:09:03,690

explains things spiritual he said that

190

00:09:09,320 --> 00:09:06,089

he gets his powers from the source sort

191

00:09:10,160 --> 00:09:09,330

of generic spiritual source I can give

192

00:09:12,440 --> 00:09:10,170

you example

193

00:09:18,280 --> 00:09:12,450

of people who see what they're doing in

194

00:09:23,060 --> 00:09:20,629

some let's say it's all science I'll

195

00:09:27,050 --> 00:09:23,070

give you examples from Qigong from bill

196

00:09:28,460 --> 00:09:27,060

Bengston and homeopathic doctors so if

197

00:09:31,310 --> 00:09:28,470

you're training to be a chi gong

198

00:09:33,439 --> 00:09:31,320

practitioner you will be told that this

199

00:09:35,449 --> 00:09:33,449

is all science and you're not told that

200

00:09:37,069 --> 00:09:35,459

it's spiritual I'm there's probably

201  
00:09:40,430 --> 00:09:37,079  
exceptions to that but the people I

202  
00:09:41,750 --> 00:09:40,440  
interviewed said that Bill Bengston said

203  
00:09:43,639 --> 00:09:41,760  
there's nothing spiritual about his

204  
00:09:46,160 --> 00:09:43,649  
healing and he said it doesn't matter if

205  
00:09:48,170 --> 00:09:46,170  
the students who come into his lab to to

206  
00:09:50,120 --> 00:09:48,180  
try the hands-on healing believe in it

207  
00:09:53,120 --> 00:09:50,130  
or not see that's really fascinating to

208  
00:09:55,160 --> 00:09:53,130  
me people who look at supposedly

209  
00:09:59,150 --> 00:09:55,170  
spiritual healing and say it's not

210  
00:10:01,670 --> 00:09:59,160  
spiritual I interviewed a norwegian

211  
00:10:04,939 --> 00:10:01,680  
homeopathic doctor who used to take care

212  
00:10:08,740 --> 00:10:04,949  
of the english soccer legend Gordon

213  
00:10:11,720 --> 00:10:08,750

banks and this Norwegian homeopathy said

214

00:10:14,269 --> 00:10:11,730

what I do is entirely scientific but a

215

00:10:16,310 --> 00:10:14,279

number of my Norwegian colleagues think

216

00:10:19,310 --> 00:10:16,320

there's a spiritual component but he saw

217

00:10:21,530 --> 00:10:19,320

it all as science so a lot of what's

218

00:10:22,100 --> 00:10:21,540

going on here is the spiritualization we

219

00:10:24,470 --> 00:10:22,110

could call it

220

00:10:26,990 --> 00:10:24,480

it's like Max Weber --zz disenchantment

221

00:10:29,930 --> 00:10:27,000

or secularization of the modern world

222

00:10:31,880 --> 00:10:29,940

the decline of mysticism so that you see

223

00:10:34,790 --> 00:10:31,890

secular yoga that doesn't have very much

224

00:10:36,230 --> 00:10:34,800

it's spiritual about it maybe a little

225

00:10:39,650 --> 00:10:36,240

namaste here and there and that's about

226

00:10:42,680 --> 00:10:39,660

it or secular secular meditation you

227

00:10:44,300 --> 00:10:42,690

know like kind of like Herbert Benson he

228

00:10:47,750 --> 00:10:44,310

wasn't seeing it as spiritual when he

229

00:10:50,269 --> 00:10:47,760

started out now here we come to what

230

00:10:55,880 --> 00:10:50,279

Larry Dossey would call conciliation

231

00:10:57,680 --> 00:10:55,890

corrupt us because we've learned so much

232

00:10:59,240 --> 00:10:57,690

about the amazing things that happened

233

00:11:01,009 --> 00:10:59,250

with placebo in the last five or ten

234

00:11:03,500 --> 00:11:01,019

years that it's pretty ignorant in

235

00:11:06,559 --> 00:11:03,510

mainstream medicine to deny the body

236

00:11:09,290 --> 00:11:06,569

mind spirit just give me the body-mind

237

00:11:11,569 --> 00:11:09,300

connection but when it comes to body

238

00:11:13,670 --> 00:11:11,579

mind spirit what do you do with spirit

239

00:11:15,920 --> 00:11:13,680

well let's not fight about this let's

240

00:11:20,120 --> 00:11:15,930

just call it all placebo and will avoid

241

00:11:22,340 --> 00:11:20,130

the concilium some people I interviewed

242

00:11:24,079 --> 00:11:22,350

took a totally rational frame even when

243

00:11:28,369 --> 00:11:24,089

they had marvelous experience

244

00:11:30,379 --> 00:11:28,379

so this one woman says she's a skeptic

245

00:11:32,799 --> 00:11:30,389

and she and her father have what looked

246

00:11:35,269 --> 00:11:32,809

like mystical experiences in nature or

247

00:11:37,610 --> 00:11:35,279

haunting experiences and historic sites

248

00:11:41,509 --> 00:11:37,620

and she says the two of them talked

249

00:11:44,210 --> 00:11:41,519

about it as feeling the energy you can

250

00:11:47,360 --> 00:11:44,220

feel the energy in this place she and

251

00:11:50,360 --> 00:11:47,370

her husband have an Egyptian fertility

252

00:11:52,999 --> 00:11:50,370

cloth that they put above the bed in the

253

00:11:55,670 --> 00:11:53,009

guest room and they say there are three

254

00:11:57,710 --> 00:11:55,680

women who have gotten pregnant sleeping

255

00:11:59,299 --> 00:11:57,720

in that bed whose doctors told them they

256

00:12:00,679 --> 00:11:59,309

couldn't possibly get pregnant so the

257

00:12:02,329 --> 00:12:00,689

woman and her husband laugh about this

258

00:12:08,720 --> 00:12:02,339

they don't believe in it but they

259

00:12:12,619 --> 00:12:08,730

recommend it there are practitioners who

260

00:12:14,749 --> 00:12:12,629

say well you know maybe my clients

261

00:12:16,790 --> 00:12:14,759

experience something spiritual sort of

262

00:12:21,470 --> 00:12:16,800

an add-on effect some sort of placebo

263

00:12:23,900 --> 00:12:21,480

effect I do massage and that's

264

00:12:25,790 --> 00:12:23,910

scientific but I don't know what's going

265

00:12:28,939 --> 00:12:25,800

on you know maybe spiritual intuitive

266

00:12:30,679 --> 00:12:28,949

things happen among my clients one

267

00:12:33,759 --> 00:12:30,689

skeptic says you know yoga and

268

00:12:37,160 --> 00:12:33,769

meditation those are medical but

269

00:12:39,019 --> 00:12:37,170

actually our instructor asks us to

270

00:12:40,369 --> 00:12:39,029

imagine that we're filling up with

271

00:12:43,669 --> 00:12:40,379

spirit maybe there's something else

272

00:12:46,489 --> 00:12:43,679

going on I found that it's really

273

00:12:48,590 --> 00:12:46,499

important what the audience is when

274

00:12:50,809 --> 00:12:48,600

these practitioners are talking so for

275

00:12:53,030 --> 00:12:50,819

example a high percentage of

276

00:12:55,910 --> 00:12:53,040

chiropractors in the United States are

277

00:12:58,189 --> 00:12:55,920

conservative Christians and one that I

278

00:12:59,509 --> 00:12:58,199

interviewed said when I'm talking in my

279

00:13:01,669 --> 00:12:59,519

congregation I tell them that I'm

280

00:13:04,100 --> 00:13:01,679

working with the Holy Spirit but I don't

281

00:13:07,040 --> 00:13:04,110

say that to MDS or other chiropractors

282

00:13:11,840 --> 00:13:07,050

or even my clients unless they want to

283

00:13:13,129 --> 00:13:11,850

talk about something spiritual some

284

00:13:15,439 --> 00:13:13,139

people say they're spiritual but they

285

00:13:16,819 --> 00:13:15,449

don't really know the process you don't

286

00:13:18,019 --> 00:13:16,829

know exactly what's happened they just

287

00:13:21,199 --> 00:13:18,029

kind of feel it there's some sort of

288

00:13:22,369 --> 00:13:21,209

feedback and there's a ritual or method

289

00:13:24,980 --> 00:13:22,379

that takes care of it but they don't

290

00:13:28,040 --> 00:13:24,990

really know so in this crystal shop in

291

00:13:30,379 --> 00:13:28,050

stoke here's my friend Tony from Hong

292

00:13:32,090 --> 00:13:30,389

Kong people call him up and ask him what

293

00:13:34,069 --> 00:13:32,100

do I use for what kind of stones were

294

00:13:35,869 --> 00:13:34,079

used for a certain ailment you know and

295

00:13:37,660 --> 00:13:35,879

he'll just something will pop into his

296

00:13:38,860 --> 00:13:37,670

head and he says he's cured

297

00:13:41,470 --> 00:13:38,870

you look it up later he doesn't know

298

00:13:42,910 --> 00:13:41,480

much about the stones I asked him what

299

00:13:45,520 --> 00:13:42,920

would be something that I could give my

300

00:13:47,380 --> 00:13:45,530

friend back in Gettysburg he walked in

301  
00:13:49,810 --> 00:13:47,390  
the back room pulled out a drawer gave

302  
00:13:52,180 --> 00:13:49,820  
me a nondescript looking flat brownstone

303  
00:13:54,400 --> 00:13:52,190  
I said okay I took it to my friends she

304  
00:13:56,560 --> 00:13:54,410  
says oh my god that's my favorite stone

305  
00:14:00,190 --> 00:13:56,570  
I've lost mine I thought I'd never see

306  
00:14:04,360 --> 00:14:00,200  
another one again some people say it's

307  
00:14:06,790 --> 00:14:04,370  
all spiritual I asked one Reiki

308  
00:14:08,740 --> 00:14:06,800  
practitioner do you think that someday

309  
00:14:10,690 --> 00:14:08,750  
we'll be able to explain scientifically

310  
00:14:12,760 --> 00:14:10,700  
what all this is that happens with your

311  
00:14:15,040 --> 00:14:12,770  
energy healing she says gosh I hope not

312  
00:14:16,780 --> 00:14:15,050  
that would spoil it that's kind of the

313  
00:14:17,940 --> 00:14:16,790

mysterion view it's a mystery let's keep

314

00:14:20,860 --> 00:14:17,950

it that way

315

00:14:22,630 --> 00:14:20,870

one-one spiritualist I interviewed said

316

00:14:24,730 --> 00:14:22,640

let's leave the scientists out of this

317

00:14:26,830 --> 00:14:24,740

which is not a typical spiritualist

318

00:14:28,840 --> 00:14:26,840

response because spiritualism is

319

00:14:32,560 --> 00:14:28,850

supposed to be a combination of science

320

00:14:35,410 --> 00:14:32,570

philosophy and religion there sometimes

321

00:14:37,510 --> 00:14:35,420

there's like a generic connection that

322

00:14:39,930 --> 00:14:37,520

healers say they have especially

323

00:14:42,850 --> 00:14:39,940

spiritualist healers that I know and

324

00:14:44,470 --> 00:14:42,860

there's some kind of intuition going on

325

00:14:46,750 --> 00:14:44,480

they don't know what it is they're

326

00:14:49,810 --> 00:14:46,760

guided somehow and they but they also

327

00:14:51,280 --> 00:14:49,820

improvise so that some people they say

328

00:14:53,110 --> 00:14:51,290

they just good know where to put their

329

00:14:54,700 --> 00:14:53,120

hands I'm a spiritualist healer myself

330

00:14:56,650 --> 00:14:54,710

and I can I know what that means you

331

00:14:59,320 --> 00:14:56,660

know I'll find myself lingering on a

332

00:15:03,490 --> 00:14:59,330

shoulder I find out later that was where

333

00:15:05,380 --> 00:15:03,500

the problem was these are two Reiki

334

00:15:08,020 --> 00:15:05,390

practitioners who work on horses and

335

00:15:10,030 --> 00:15:08,030

people like me and the three of us

336

00:15:11,710 --> 00:15:10,040

compared notes about what we thought was

337

00:15:13,410 --> 00:15:11,720

going on while they were healing me and

338

00:15:15,400 --> 00:15:13,420

we all had different kinds of feelings

339

00:15:18,280 --> 00:15:15,410

intuitive notions of what was happening

340

00:15:20,410 --> 00:15:18,290

if you want to become a healer you'll

341

00:15:22,960 --> 00:15:20,420

take a rate Reiki class you go in class

342

00:15:24,490 --> 00:15:22,970

spiritual sailing class and you have a

343

00:15:26,590 --> 00:15:24,500

theory and a message but there's

344

00:15:28,540 --> 00:15:26,600

tremendous variation in what people

345

00:15:30,660 --> 00:15:28,550

actually do and how they describe what

346

00:15:33,420 --> 00:15:30,670

they think is going on in England

347

00:15:36,010 --> 00:15:33,430

spiritualist churches have very rigid

348

00:15:37,480 --> 00:15:36,020

notebooks of pictures of where you're

349

00:15:39,070 --> 00:15:37,490

supposed to put your hands and where

350

00:15:41,350 --> 00:15:39,080

you're not supposed to put your hands

351  
00:15:43,590 --> 00:15:41,360  
and but the healers told me we don't go

352  
00:15:46,090 --> 00:15:43,600  
by that

353  
00:15:50,620 --> 00:15:46,100  
spirit mediums have rules about how

354  
00:15:52,720 --> 00:15:50,630  
they're supposed to connect and Penelope

355  
00:15:56,170 --> 00:15:52,730  
and I on the left they'll be on the left

356  
00:15:58,960 --> 00:15:56,180  
our do phenomenological subjective

357  
00:16:00,280 --> 00:15:58,970  
studies of how mediums do what you do in

358  
00:16:02,920 --> 00:16:00,290  
the book guided by spirit

359  
00:16:06,280 --> 00:16:02,930  
whereas Julie by shal does mostly

360  
00:16:08,770 --> 00:16:06,290  
objective laboratory studies with MRIs

361  
00:16:10,960 --> 00:16:08,780  
and so on but Julie is in you know it's

362  
00:16:13,150 --> 00:16:10,970  
a wind bridge Research Center but she's

363  
00:16:14,470 --> 00:16:13,160

also incorporating some subjective

364

00:16:16,990 --> 00:16:14,480

measures which i think is really good

365

00:16:20,680 --> 00:16:17,000

the those comparisons that's the wave of

366

00:16:23,950 --> 00:16:20,690

the future for studying mediumship both

367

00:16:27,370 --> 00:16:23,960

mediums and healers say that they have

368

00:16:30,160 --> 00:16:27,380

often spirit guides and there are rules

369

00:16:31,990 --> 00:16:30,170

against connecting the mediumship with

370

00:16:32,470 --> 00:16:32,000

the healing but actually they go

371

00:16:34,810 --> 00:16:32,480

together

372

00:16:36,850 --> 00:16:34,820

I mean I've experienced that myself and

373

00:16:38,500 --> 00:16:36,860

there are rules in Lily Dale where the

374

00:16:40,240 --> 00:16:38,510

spiritualist community about you know

375

00:16:42,220 --> 00:16:40,250

don't mix these things don't pretend

376

00:16:44,470 --> 00:16:42,230

you're a doctor one of the mediums says

377

00:16:47,230 --> 00:16:44,480

she visualizes the Tolbert Pillsbury

378

00:16:48,640 --> 00:16:47,240

Doughboy and somebody poking the

379

00:16:50,800 --> 00:16:48,650

Doughboy where there's a physical

380

00:16:52,660 --> 00:16:50,810

problem and she'll tell the sitter in a

381

00:16:54,630 --> 00:16:52,670

private reading that she should check it

382

00:16:58,060 --> 00:16:54,640

out

383

00:16:59,740 --> 00:16:58,070

there are also prayer circles all kinds

384

00:17:01,780 --> 00:16:59,750

of other things you could study in a big

385

00:17:03,790 --> 00:17:01,790

study of spiritualism you could see

386

00:17:05,920 --> 00:17:03,800

their social support with SIBO effects

387

00:17:07,930 --> 00:17:05,930

we could study healing at a distance

388

00:17:09,940 --> 00:17:07,940

there's all kinds of things going on

389

00:17:12,340 --> 00:17:09,950

there that really connect mediumship and

390

00:17:14,530 --> 00:17:12,350

healing so in conclusion there's a

391

00:17:17,290 --> 00:17:14,540

tendency to rationalize a lot of healing

392

00:17:19,390 --> 00:17:17,300

in some kind of a theory and there's a

393

00:17:21,400 --> 00:17:19,400

move toward the scientific framing of

394

00:17:23,830 --> 00:17:21,410

things but there's a great variety of

395

00:17:26,980 --> 00:17:23,840

practices so that the general theories

396

00:17:29,500 --> 00:17:26,990

about how these things work whether it's

397

00:17:32,140 --> 00:17:29,510

scientific or spiritual theory really

398

00:17:36,210 --> 00:17:32,150

don't capture the everyday spirituality

399

00:17:40,410 --> 00:17:36,220

of all these healing behaviors thank you

400

00:17:50,950 --> 00:17:43,480

Thank You Charles and we have time for

401  
00:17:53,650 --> 00:17:50,960  
some question maybe I missed it but

402  
00:17:55,630 --> 00:17:53,660  
could you define spirit and could you

403  
00:17:57,550 --> 00:17:55,640  
define the difference between spiritual

404  
00:18:00,400 --> 00:17:57,560  
healing and electromagnetic healing with

405  
00:18:02,440 --> 00:18:00,410  
a device no I can't but that's up to my

406  
00:18:04,600 --> 00:18:02,450  
the people that I interviewed see I want

407  
00:18:07,360 --> 00:18:04,610  
to know how they look at it now I could

408  
00:18:09,100 --> 00:18:07,370  
give you a variety of statements of what

409  
00:18:11,110 --> 00:18:09,110  
people say about what spirit is and

410  
00:18:13,840 --> 00:18:11,120  
their theories about how it works but

411  
00:18:16,030 --> 00:18:13,850  
it's very strim entity but I'm not

412  
00:18:17,920 --> 00:18:16,040  
studying how it works see and I'm not

413  
00:18:20,350 --> 00:18:17,930

defining it I'm letting the people I

414

00:18:22,810 --> 00:18:20,360

interviewed to find it I mean I can tell

415

00:18:25,060 --> 00:18:22,820

you what I think but that's not relevant

416

00:18:27,100 --> 00:18:25,070

to what I'm talking about but what do I

417

00:18:29,410 --> 00:18:27,110

think spirit is I don't know I think

418

00:18:30,970 --> 00:18:29,420

it's consciousness and that it's a

419

00:18:34,200 --> 00:18:30,980

mystery that we're there we're working

420

00:18:36,490 --> 00:18:34,210

on I mean that's as much as I know and

421

00:18:38,830 --> 00:18:36,500

and I don't know about

422

00:18:40,780 --> 00:18:38,840

I mean I'm curious about all the energy

423

00:18:44,410 --> 00:18:40,790

explanations information explanations

424

00:18:46,600 --> 00:18:44,420

but that's not my specialty either but I

425

00:18:49,120 --> 00:18:46,610

appreciate the appreciate the question

426  
00:18:50,800 --> 00:18:49,130  
when you've interviewed healers who

427  
00:18:53,380 --> 00:18:50,810  
refer to science are they doing that

428  
00:18:55,540 --> 00:18:53,390  
primarily for pragmatic reasons do you

429  
00:18:57,550 --> 00:18:55,550  
find or for reasons to try to understand

430  
00:18:58,840 --> 00:18:57,560  
what's happening I just wonder if you

431  
00:19:01,170 --> 00:18:58,850  
could say a little bit more about when

432  
00:19:04,690 --> 00:19:01,180  
healers are referring to science

433  
00:19:08,400 --> 00:19:04,700  
specifically data my impression is that

434  
00:19:10,690 --> 00:19:08,410  
most of them don't care very much about

435  
00:19:12,880 --> 00:19:10,700  
the scientific explanation they may be

436  
00:19:15,190 --> 00:19:12,890  
curious and they know what they've been

437  
00:19:18,040 --> 00:19:15,200  
told about how to do things and they

438  
00:19:20,560 --> 00:19:18,050

give sort of a kind of a fun generic

439

00:19:22,120 --> 00:19:20,570

discussion of that they'll talk about it

440

00:19:24,430 --> 00:19:22,130

philosophically but I don't think they

441

00:19:26,590 --> 00:19:24,440

look to it very specifically for how to

442

00:19:28,120 --> 00:19:26,600

do things and some of them really worry

443

00:19:30,250 --> 00:19:28,130

that they're not doing it according to

444

00:19:32,020 --> 00:19:30,260

the rules and they asked their teachers

445

00:19:34,330 --> 00:19:32,030

and they say you're great don't worry

446

00:19:37,600 --> 00:19:34,340

about it there's a tremendous amount of

447

00:19:43,390 --> 00:19:37,610

intuition rather than rational ways of

448

00:19:45,180 --> 00:19:43,400

doing things yeah very interesting you

449

00:19:49,469 --> 00:19:45,190

know the older I get

450

00:19:52,320 --> 00:19:49,479

the more I think that humans attribute

451

00:19:56,369 --> 00:19:52,330

all sorts of reasons to the things but

452

00:19:59,310 --> 00:19:56,379

nature just is and that's in physics and

453

00:20:02,669 --> 00:19:59,320

psychic phenomena by healing and so on

454

00:20:04,680 --> 00:20:02,679

it's why are why are we as human beings

455

00:20:07,109 --> 00:20:04,690

always trying to attribute causes to

456

00:20:08,789 --> 00:20:07,119

things when we really don't there could

457

00:20:10,859 --> 00:20:08,799

be multiple causes everything happen it

458

00:20:13,560 --> 00:20:10,869

causes everything see I'm a heel or a

459

00:20:15,509 --> 00:20:13,570

spiritual healer and if if I have to

460

00:20:19,680 --> 00:20:15,519

decide between science and intuition

461

00:20:21,749 --> 00:20:19,690

I'll take science but this is new for me

462

00:20:24,060 --> 00:20:21,759

being a spirit medium and a healer and

463

00:20:25,649 --> 00:20:24,070

I'm just sort of in awe of it and I'd

464

00:20:28,469 --> 00:20:25,659

like to have some answers you know what

465

00:20:30,450 --> 00:20:28,479

is spirit and all that but I know what

466

00:20:32,639 --> 00:20:30,460

it feels like now and the experiential

467

00:20:33,539 --> 00:20:32,649

part is really important to understand

468

00:20:38,479 --> 00:20:33,549

how this works

469

00:20:41,279 --> 00:20:38,489

I mean to feel how it works yeah it's

470

00:20:44,369 --> 00:20:41,289

I'm not Anna mysterion though I want to

471

00:20:46,619 --> 00:20:44,379

know yeah thank you thank you for your

472

00:20:50,820 --> 00:20:46,629

interesting talk my question has to do

473

00:20:53,339 --> 00:20:50,830

with the search for mechanistic

474

00:20:55,320 --> 00:20:53,349

explanations for what's going on and how

475

00:20:57,779 --> 00:20:55,330

in a clinical situation sometimes we

476

00:20:59,909 --> 00:20:57,789

benefit from having more degrees of

477

00:21:03,509 --> 00:20:59,919

freedom for change and so the error term

478

00:21:06,450 --> 00:21:03,519

actually may be where our friend is that

479

00:21:07,710 --> 00:21:06,460

I've found over time I'm a clinical

480

00:21:10,619 --> 00:21:07,720

psychologist and I use a lot of

481

00:21:12,989 --> 00:21:10,629

biofeedback and low level laser and just

482

00:21:15,570 --> 00:21:12,999

these emergent technologies in my work I

483

00:21:17,339 --> 00:21:15,580

don't introduce them all at once but

484

00:21:19,019 --> 00:21:17,349

very often I'll have more than one thing

485

00:21:20,789 --> 00:21:19,029

going on with people and it seems like

486

00:21:23,879 --> 00:21:20,799

the outcomes are greater that somehow

487

00:21:25,739 --> 00:21:23,889

there's a synergy and the willingness to

488

00:21:27,629 --> 00:21:25,749

live with the mystery for the mechanism

489

00:21:29,190 --> 00:21:27,639

that's underlying the change actually

490

00:21:30,570 --> 00:21:29,200

seems to work to our benefit and I'm

491

00:21:31,859 --> 00:21:30,580

wonder if you'd comment on yeah you have

492

00:21:33,450 --> 00:21:31,869

to have the intention I mean that's the

493

00:21:36,479 --> 00:21:33,460

way I look at it I have the intention

494

00:21:41,219 --> 00:21:36,489

and I kind of let go but a couple things

495

00:21:43,349 --> 00:21:41,229

I think bill Bengston is right that has

496

00:21:44,789 --> 00:21:43,359

a lot to do the person being healed and

497

00:21:46,109 --> 00:21:44,799

I think very few people when they come

498

00:21:47,789 --> 00:21:46,119

in the healing temple and lowly Dale

499

00:21:50,009 --> 00:21:47,799

thinks that they have anything to do

500

00:21:52,049 --> 00:21:50,019

with it but I and also when people get

501

00:21:54,450 --> 00:21:52,059

readings has a lot to do with the sitter

502

00:21:57,350 --> 00:21:54,460

I've noticed that that some people I

503

00:22:01,430 --> 00:21:57,360

just can't read and

504

00:22:02,990 --> 00:22:01,440

so it's it I don't know I kind of lost

505

00:22:07,880 --> 00:22:03,000

my train on the other part of your

506

00:22:13,030 --> 00:22:07,890

question but that was good thank you