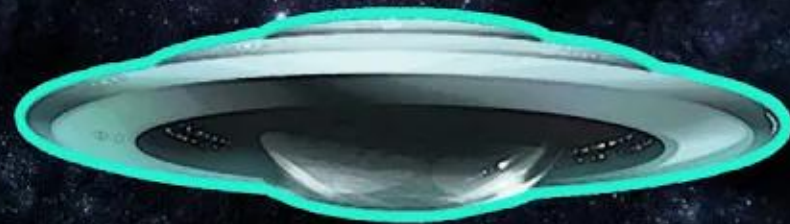




# THE ROLE OF COMEDY IN UFO STIGMA



FEATURING

**DAVE FOLEY**

1  
00:00:00,940 --> 00:00:00,289

[Music]

2  
00:00:08,410 --> 00:00:00,950

foreign

3  
00:00:11,030 --> 00:00:08,420

[Music]

4  
00:00:14,629 --> 00:00:11,040  
was the decision made by the Pentagon to

5  
00:00:17,410 --> 00:00:14,639  
to uh begin publicly ridiculing and

6  
00:00:20,090 --> 00:00:17,420  
undermining uh The credibility of of

7  
00:00:22,970 --> 00:00:20,100  
witnesses that was like the early 50s

8  
00:00:25,250 --> 00:00:22,980  
right yeah yeah back Project Blue Book

9  
00:00:26,870 --> 00:00:25,260  
days yep yeah so it was there they went

10  
00:00:28,310 --> 00:00:26,880  
from the they went from a stance of all

11  
00:00:30,349 --> 00:00:28,320  
right let's investigate this stuff too

12  
00:00:31,990 --> 00:00:30,359  
let's make it seem crazy and make

13  
00:00:36,650 --> 00:00:32,000

everyone who talks about it seem crazy

14

00:00:38,389 --> 00:00:36,660

and condition the public to that and so

15

00:00:40,069 --> 00:00:38,399

um

16

00:00:42,590 --> 00:00:40,079

so I'm saying like going back from the

17

00:00:45,650 --> 00:00:42,600

earliest you know I mean television

18

00:00:47,150 --> 00:00:45,660

radio uh that was sort of the atmosphere

19

00:00:49,069 --> 00:00:47,160

was created that all of the people who

20

00:00:51,709 --> 00:00:49,079

believed in UFOs were you know the

21

00:00:53,450 --> 00:00:51,719

lunatics who hung out in the desert uh

22

00:00:55,310 --> 00:00:53,460

waiting for them to come down for you

23

00:00:58,130 --> 00:00:55,320

know to save us

24

00:01:02,569 --> 00:00:58,140

um and uh

25

00:01:05,570 --> 00:01:02,579

and so they uh so comedy uh especially

26  
00:01:08,090 --> 00:01:05,580  
in those days there was very a strong uh

27  
00:01:11,210 --> 00:01:08,100  
tendency towards what I would used to

28  
00:01:12,530 --> 00:01:11,220  
call public domain comedy uh you know

29  
00:01:15,289 --> 00:01:12,540  
which is like you know every every every

30  
00:01:17,090 --> 00:01:15,299  
comedy show would do a scene where I a

31  
00:01:18,649 --> 00:01:17,100  
drunk guy sees something crazy and then

32  
00:01:21,050 --> 00:01:18,659  
takes the flask out of his pocket and

33  
00:01:23,510 --> 00:01:21,060  
goes oh boy

34  
00:01:26,810 --> 00:01:23,520  
you know so everyone everyone would do

35  
00:01:28,249 --> 00:01:26,820  
the same joke right in those days I

36  
00:01:29,510 --> 00:01:28,259  
think we've we've evolved a little bit

37  
00:01:31,249 --> 00:01:29,520  
from that we've made comedy a little

38  
00:01:34,969 --> 00:01:31,259

harder now

39

00:01:37,069 --> 00:01:34,979

um but at that time yeah so you'd go for

40

00:01:39,289 --> 00:01:37,079

the low hanging fruit the easy laugh so

41

00:01:40,310 --> 00:01:39,299

if there was a story about UFOs in the

42

00:01:42,530 --> 00:01:40,320

news

43

00:01:44,510 --> 00:01:42,540

everyone in comedy would tell their

44

00:01:47,450 --> 00:01:44,520

jokes you know whether it was Bob Hope

45

00:01:50,030 --> 00:01:47,460

or later whether it was Johnny Carson uh

46

00:01:51,590 --> 00:01:50,040

or later Saturday Night Live

47

00:01:55,429 --> 00:01:51,600

um and it just all went on that that

48

00:01:58,910 --> 00:01:55,439

smart intelligent people immediately

49

00:02:02,630 --> 00:01:58,920

mocked the story immediately mocked any

50

00:02:06,109 --> 00:02:02,640

Witnesses derided them uh disparaged and

51

00:02:09,169 --> 00:02:06,119

uh and and disposed of them

52

00:02:10,609 --> 00:02:09,179

um pretty quickly so comedians became

53

00:02:12,770 --> 00:02:10,619

um

54

00:02:15,470 --> 00:02:12,780

an unwitting Ally I Think to the

55

00:02:19,850 --> 00:02:15,480

government in creating uh the narrative

56

00:02:22,430 --> 00:02:19,860

that uh all UFO uh encounters are the

57

00:02:25,790 --> 00:02:22,440

the product of deranged Minds

58

00:02:28,550 --> 00:02:25,800

and and and and forwarding The

59

00:02:31,010 --> 00:02:28,560

Stereotype of the uh yeah you know of

60

00:02:34,190 --> 00:02:31,020

the of the the hick and his camper in

61

00:02:37,550 --> 00:02:34,200

the middle of the woods you know uh with

62

00:02:42,530 --> 00:02:37,560

his bottle of moonshine seeing a UFO you

63

00:02:44,869 --> 00:02:42,540

know yeah and and I gotta say to to uh

64

00:02:47,150 --> 00:02:44,879

to a certain extent I mean that that

65

00:02:49,430 --> 00:02:47,160

social conditioning is one of the things

66

00:02:50,869 --> 00:02:49,440

that has amazed me most since I guess

67

00:02:52,369 --> 00:02:50,879

even since

68

00:02:54,830 --> 00:02:52,379

particularly since the New York Times

69

00:02:56,930 --> 00:02:54,840

article is the

70

00:02:59,570 --> 00:02:56,940

profound effect that the social

71

00:03:02,150 --> 00:02:59,580

conditioning has had on on the

72

00:03:04,729 --> 00:03:02,160

population that even now when you've got

73

00:03:07,850 --> 00:03:04,739

the Pentagon coming out and saying yes

74

00:03:09,410 --> 00:03:07,860

they're real you know no we don't know

75

00:03:12,170 --> 00:03:09,420

what they are

76

00:03:14,210 --> 00:03:12,180

um the response to the public is still

77

00:03:16,070 --> 00:03:14,220

largely right

78

00:03:18,770 --> 00:03:16,080

that's that's crazy I don't even want to

79

00:03:20,089 --> 00:03:18,780

talk about that crazy you know and

80

00:03:23,690 --> 00:03:20,099

just going on with their day well

81

00:03:26,030 --> 00:03:23,700

whatever whatever freak you know and and

82

00:03:27,949 --> 00:03:26,040

I know and this is from particularly

83

00:03:30,589 --> 00:03:27,959

from intelligent people who actually are

84

00:03:32,089 --> 00:03:30,599

as I said I have friends who who I know

85

00:03:32,930 --> 00:03:32,099

read the New York Times from cover to

86

00:03:35,990 --> 00:03:32,940

cover

87

00:03:38,809 --> 00:03:36,000

uh but when I asked him about about the

88

00:03:40,850 --> 00:03:38,819

you know these uh UFO Revelations from

89

00:03:42,589 --> 00:03:40,860

The New York Times and the the the three

90

00:03:43,430 --> 00:03:42,599

famous videos that came out along with

91

00:03:44,990 --> 00:03:43,440

it

92

00:03:46,789 --> 00:03:45,000

people I know read the New York Times

93

00:03:48,170 --> 00:03:46,799

program what are you talking about when

94

00:03:49,130 --> 00:03:48,180

was this this was in the times I didn't

95

00:03:50,930 --> 00:03:49,140

see that

96

00:03:52,670 --> 00:03:50,940

and he was it's the social conditioning

97

00:03:54,170 --> 00:03:52,680

that literally not only did they not

98

00:03:56,449 --> 00:03:54,180

read the articles

99

00:03:58,369 --> 00:03:56,459

they didn't register that they had seen

100

00:04:00,830 --> 00:03:58,379

the articles

101  
00:04:05,030 --> 00:04:00,840  
because they're so conditioned to just

102  
00:04:07,369 --> 00:04:05,040  
block out anything to do with UFOs

103  
00:04:09,710 --> 00:04:07,379  
and that even if it's on the front page

104  
00:04:11,570 --> 00:04:09,720  
yes even if it's on the front page and

105  
00:04:13,850 --> 00:04:11,580  
you know there's no way they missed it

106  
00:04:16,069 --> 00:04:13,860  
but they did

107  
00:04:17,569 --> 00:04:16,079  
smart people that I know I could talk to

108  
00:04:19,969 --> 00:04:17,579  
them about everything else that was in

109  
00:04:23,090 --> 00:04:19,979  
that issue of the New York Times

110  
00:04:24,290 --> 00:04:23,100  
you know and uh people the people that

111  
00:04:27,230 --> 00:04:24,300  
you know friends of mine that are

112  
00:04:30,770 --> 00:04:27,240  
comedians that are extremely

113  
00:04:31,909 --> 00:04:30,780

um tied into the culture

114

00:04:35,090 --> 00:04:31,919

um

115

00:04:37,550 --> 00:04:35,100

just zero awareness of the fact that

116

00:04:39,770 --> 00:04:37,560

that the story had broken and the

117

00:04:43,310 --> 00:04:39,780

Pentagon had confirmed it

118

00:04:46,909 --> 00:04:43,320

and uh that startled me and I kept

119

00:04:49,730 --> 00:04:46,919

thinking wow it really is this a larger

120

00:04:53,390 --> 00:04:49,740

danger to be aware of which is how

121

00:04:57,710 --> 00:04:53,400

susceptible we are to having our uh

122

00:05:03,050 --> 00:04:57,720

I guess our our field of view narrowed