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Location: [Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1998](#) -> [Aug](#) -> Re: Why Migraines Don't Explain UFOs

UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Why Migraines Don't Explain UFOs

From: **Rob Irving** <RobIrving@aol.com>
Date: Thu, 6 Aug 1998 18:16:35 EDT
Fwd Date: Thu, 06 Aug 1998 21:55:14 -0400
Subject: Re: Why Migraines Don't Explain UFOs

>Subject: UFO UpDate: Re: Why Migraines Don't Explain UFOs
>From: Mark Cashman <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
>Reply-To: Mark Cashman <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
>Date: Thu, 6 Aug 1998 02:08:41 -0400
>To: UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>

Mark,

<snip>

>As for the issue of hoaxes, let's see a study that demonstrates
>the proportion of undiscovered hoaxes.

As I am sure you realised immediately after writing that, it would of course be impossible to conduct a study of anything undiscovered.

Because Jerome Clark enjoys citing Marcello Truzzi so much, I take great pleasure in pointing you towards Truzzi's 'The Sociology and Psychology of Hoaxes, in which he writes:

'A further fundamental problem with categorizing sources is that any generalizations or even speculations about hoaxers must be based on a) hoaxes that have been exposed (there are surely hoaxers whose fabrications remain undiscovered) and b) those cases of known hoaxes where the hoaxer has been identified (there are many hoaxes whose perpetrators remain a mystery).'

Truzzi would appear to be supporting Rimmer on this. This stands to reason: Anyone who has any appreciation of the nature/motive of hoaxing in ufology (and related subjects) would understand the value of uncertainty. It's often the whole point, despite what many ufologists would have us believe when they speak of money and the need for attention as major factors, which they're usually not.

Also, you might consider the amount of proven hoaxes that remain the subject of general discussion in ufology, as if very much alive.

Rob

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