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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### **Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome**

From: **John Rimmer** <[magonia@magonia.demon.co.uk](mailto:magonia@magonia.demon.co.uk)>  
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 1999 23:32:16 +0100  
Fwd Date: Tue, 15 Jun 1999 23:53:47 -0400  
Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome

>From: Rose Hargrove <[PRIESTESSE@aol.com](mailto:PRIESTESSE@aol.com)>  
>Date: Sun, 13 Jun 1999 20:19:22 EDT  
>Subject: Re: Mad Max: Beyond the Blunderdome  
>To: [updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)

>I agree that we must be responsible and police our own but at  
>the same time we must not attack our fellow ufologists merely  
>because their conclusions do not match ours and especially if  
>the work presented is based on years of honest research. We must  
>support one another as far as we are able as there are too many  
>who would attack us with no real provocation as a fringe element.

This seems to be a basic problem in the attitude of many ufologists, perhaps caused by too much use of the phrase "the ufological community". I would challenge this assumption that there is a common "ufological community" which shares a basic set of values and assumptions, and which should be preserved at all costs from attacks by ill-defined groups of outsiders. Yes, I'm against ad-hominem attacks on individual researchers (OK, there are a few exceptions, no names no pack-drill), but I see no reason why I should not vigorously dispute the conclusions of "fellow ufologists" if I think they are wrong, no matter how many decades of misguided research they have put into it. The idea that we should all keep shtumm about the nonsense which is often paraded in the guise of ufology, just because some nasty bogey-man out there wants to denounce us as a fringe element, is absurd.

Police work is tough.

My conclusions, "based on years of honest research" do not match those of Jerome Clark, but I don't think anyone would seriously suggest that he gives up attacking them just to support some sort of vague idea of a united "UFO Community" circling its waggons against a hostile outside world.

>We must I conclude be careful not to take a giant step back  
>ward and begin to silence our own ranks. While we are busy  
>fighting amongst ourselves our detractors our even busier in  
>attempting to eliminate the issue altogether and all of us as  
>well.

These sinister "detractors" would find their job even easier if some ufologists did not make themselves unpopular by doing such public-spirited acts as pointing out what a load of tosh people like Max Burns are spouting. The one saving grace of the UFO world as it is presently constituted is that there is at least some internal criticism and system of checks and balances to keep the barmier elements in check, or at least to shown that someone is marking their card. This will impress critics more that a Pollyanna-like love-in with everyone patting each others'

back and congratulating everyone of their "sincerity".

>Respectfully,

>Rose Hargrove

--  
John Rimmer  
[www.magonia.demon.co.uk](http://www.magonia.demon.co.uk)  
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