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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Budd Hopkins And The Big Lie

From: Greg Sandow <gsandow@prodigy.net>
Date: Fri, 18 Jun 1999 15:22:35 -0400
Fwd Date: Sat, 19 Jun 1999 08:45:05 -0400
Subject: Re: Budd Hopkins And The Big Lie

>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globalserve.net>
>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark@frontiernet.net>
>Subject: Budd Hopkins And The Big Lie
>Date: Thu, 17 Jun 99 21:16:10 PDT>

>Listfolk:

>Recently we have read charges on this list that Budd Hopkins
>hypnotizes children while pursuing research into UFO-abduction
>reports. I have had deep doubts about this very serious
>allegation, which runs contrary to everything I know and have
>observed about Budd's ethics, judgment, and sensitivity to
>others.

>As some of you are aware, Budd does not have e-mail. I have,
>however, just heard from my friend David M. Jacobs, who does.
>Even more astonished than I to read these fantastic claims, he
>phoned Budd to ask about them. Jacobs informs me -- not
>surprisingly, to those of us who know Budd -- that Hopkins has
>never_ conducted hypnosis with children. Nor, for that matter,
>has Jacobs.

>In other words, we've been at the receiving end of the Big Lie.
>Those who have passed it on, innocently if recklessly, owe Budd
>Hopkins an apology. Those who knew or suspected it was a lie but
>circulated it anyway are beyond redemption. The former are
>urged, in the name of common decency, to apologize publicly.
>This list would be a good place to do it.

>Jerry Clark

Thank you for this, Jerry. I was going to post much the same
thing, though not with the strength you brought to the matter.

Of course people who disagree with Budd's conclusions are free to
criticize his work. So are people who agree with him.

But much of what has been posted here is simply irresponsible --
as irresponsible, in fact, as Budd himself has been alleged to
be. Apart from this nonsense about Budd hypnotizing children, I
have yet to see a critique of Budd's use of hypnosis that (1)
mentions Budd's reasons for believing some of the information he
gets is accurate, along with techniques he uses to verify its
accuracy, and (2) takes into account the full discussion among
psychologists about hypnosis, nicely summarized in Stewart
Appelle's paper on the abduction evidence, in the 1996 issue of
JUFOS. (I quoted a large chunk of it here once; surely it's in

the UpDates archives.)

I've stayed out of the discussion up to now, due to other commitments, but I had to add my voice to Jerry's.

Greg Sandow

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