

**An Overview of FREE**

**The Foundation for Research into Extraterrestrial Encounters, FREE**

 FREE was formally incorporated as a Not for Profit Research Organization on July 15, 2015.**FREE** has been established by various retired Ph.D. Physicists, Ph.D. Scientists, Ph.D. Psychologists, Ph.D. Neuroscientists and lay researchers to facilitate investigations into “**UFO related contact experiences with non-human intelligent beings and associated paranormal activity, from a grounded and rigorous scientific foundation”.** These interrelated subjects include alleged UFO related extraterrestrial encounters, UFO related contact with non-human intelligent entities from parallel worlds or other dimensions, plus UFO related associated manifestations that appear to violate known physical laws.

 The initial **FREE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**, are as follows:

* **DR. RUDY SCHILD**: The Executive Director of FREE is **DR. RUDY SCHILD.** Rudy is an Emeritus Professor at the Harvard/Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics at Harvard University, following an extensive career studying Dark Matter, Black Holes, and the fluid mechanical origins of Cosmic Structure and the Physics of Information. Because of his long association with Dr. John Mack and Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Rudy became interested in the formulation of a coherent understanding of the nature of space-time in the Universe, and is a champion of the Edgar Mitchell quantum hologram formulation of the nature of existence and reality. As Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Cosmology he has attempted to broaden the scope of scientific inquiry to include the nature of consciousness and the Universe of Universes.
* **DR. EDGAR MITCHELL:** Edgar was the 6th man on the moon and Apollo Astronaut; founder of the Institute for Noetic Sciences; Father of the Disclosure Movement in Ufology; Consciousness Studies researcher who has published numerous academic articles and books in this arena and on the Physics of Consciousness.
* **Dr. Jon Klimo**: retired tenured Professor of Psychology for over 40 years in the fields of Transpersonal Psychology and Parapsychology who has published many academic articles and academic books on these topics.
* **Dr. Leo Sprinkle:** retired Professor of Psychology and the first academic to publish academic articles on Experiencers of UFO related “Contact” and the related paranormal phenomenon.
* **Dr. Bob Davis**: retired tenured Professor of Neuroscience for over 30 years at the State University of NY in Neuroscience and electrophysiology who has recently published a book on the UFO Phenomenon.
* **Mary Rodwell:** Has been a researcher in this field for over 30 years and has investigated over 3,000 Experiencer cases. Mary is the author of “Awakening”. Mary is also an Experiencer.
* **Kathleen Marden:** Has been a researcher in this field for over 30 years and has investigated thousands of Experiencer cases. Kathleen is the Director of MUFON’s Experiencer Research Group. She is also an Experiencer.
* **Giorgio Piacenza:** Lives in Peru and is one of Latin America’s top Ufology researchers. He is also an Experiencer. Has been a researcher in this field for over 30 years and has investigated thousands of Experiencer cases.
* **Rosemary Ellen Guiley:** Is considered by many to be one of the top researchers in the field of the “paranormal” and has written 62 books in this topic field. She has worked in this field for over 30 years and has investigated thousands of Experiencer cases. She is also an Experiencer.
* **Dr. Illobrand Ludwiger**: Dr. Ludwiger is a physicist and is considered by many as Europe’s top UFO researcher. He has published 4 books on the topic of UFOs and various research articles. Illobrand is also very much interested in the unification theory of physics that can explain what is “Consciousness” and how UFOs and the Paranormal are all interrelated.
* **Reinerio (Rey) Hernandez**:  Rey, and his entire family, are Experiencers and is the Operations Manager for FREE.  Rey is an Estate Tax Attorney with the US Department of Treasury in Miami, Florida. Rey has attended graduate studies at Cornell University and was a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of California at Berkeley where he received the prestigious National Science Foundation Ph.D. Fellowship.

          The Mission of **FREE** will focus on “**Research, Education and Support**” but will primarily focus on scientific investigation through surveys and interviews on individuals who have had **UFO related contact experiences with non-human intelligent beings and eventually to compare this UFO related contact group with individuals that have had other types of paranormal contact experiences** through the following:  NDEs, OBEs, Hallucinogenic/Entheogenic natural substances, hypnotic regression, Mystical Meditation Travel, Channeling, Remote Viewing, and human encounters with non-human intelligence, and related paranormal contact experiences.  The focus is thus not solely on paranormal experiences.  Instead, the focus is on UFO related contact experiences that might have an "associated" paranormal experience as well.

 The primary project FREE will be undertaking is the first comprehensive multilingual and multinational academic research study on individuals that have had UFO related contact experiences. What follows is a detailed discussion of our **FREE Experiencer Research Study** and the vision and mission of FREE.

Dr. Jon Klimo, a recently retired tenured professor who has worked in the fields of Parapsychology and Transpersonal Psychology for over 40 years, will serve as Chair of the **FREE Experiencer Research Study** and developed the research methodology with assistance from a panel of 10 researchers and academics with previous experience in this field of research.   Dr. Klimo is perfect for this task because he has chaired over 250 Ph.D. dissertations and has taught “Research Methodology” for approximately 40 years.  Dr. Klimo has also researched Experiencers of UFO related Contact and other paranormal contact phenomena for many years and has published various academic papers and books on these topics.

          The majority of our FREE Board of Directors, including Dr. Rudy Schild and Dr. Edgar Mitchell, hypothesize that all of these diverse "Paranormal Contact Modalities" (NDEs, OBEs, UFO visitations, Remote Viewing, ESP, Channeling, Spirit Interactions, etc) are interconnected through what is commonly called “CONSCIOUSNESS” and that advanced physics, in particular, **the Quantum Hologram Theory of Physics and Consciousness**, can begin to describe the possibility of how all of these diverse "Paranormal Contact Modalities" are indeed interrelated with the UFO Contact Phenomena.  Both Dr. Rudy Schild , Dr. Edgar Mitchell, and several of our FREE physicists have published a series of academic papers on this very topic.  **FREE** will begin, through the contributions of the five Ph.D. physicists associated with FREE, and other diverse scientists associated with FREE, to bring into our “Experiencer Research Study", the latest findings from advanced physics that might begin to explain the quantum nature of Anamolous Contact Experiences, including the “UFO Related Contact Experience".

 The formulation of the Quantum Hologram is intended to allow an understanding of effects related to the spatial attribute of the Universe that describes the particle (mass) properties, to also describe the consciousness known to pervade our space-time. This is necessary because many phenomena involving functions of mind and particularly communication between minds require inter-connectedness of human and animal minds. This also allows any cosmic Intelligence to interact with human minds through consciousness. Because it is known that quantum effects describing the existence and properties of individual particles travel instantaneously, un-restricted by light speed (Szalard 1987, “spooky action at a distance”), so too, psychic phenomena are instantaneous.

Many such phenomena are now recognized and being studied, phenomena such as: Near Death Experiences (NDEs), Out-of-Body Experiences (OBEs), telepathy, remote viewing, Extrasensory Perception (ESP), Channeling/Mediumship, etc. Probably related phenomena include UFO related contact experiences. These and other phenomena are begging for study and physical description, and a vast literature and on-line presence now seems to agree that they are supported by some quantum behaviors of the Universe, and, probably require some expanded understanding of the dimensionality of the Universe. The physicists associated with FREE are tackling this very complex issue.

         The majority of our **FREE** Board of Directors also endorse the **Post-Materialist Paradigm of what is “Consciousness”**, promulgated by Dr. Edgar Mitchell since the early 1970s and who helped establish the Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS)-- a paradigm that firmly believes that consciousness is non-local and independent of the brain. This view of non-local consciousness might allow us to possibly explain a wide variety of special states of consciousness and many of the so called “paranormal” contact phenomena, including the UFO related contact experiences.

          In addition, **FREE** will also uphold the views established by the field of “**Transpersonal Psychology**” that investigates the “Spiritual” aspects of our reality with openness and to help others who have had direct personal contact experiences to integrate these experiences into their daily lives and possibly into their spiritual practice.  To this end, **FREE**will continue to support all “Experiencers” of paranormal experiences through the **FREE** “**PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM**” and other support services--  a program that has assisted over 300 Experiencers of UFO related contact experiences since September of 2014.

          **FREE** also addresses the historic field of Parapsychology which has failed to introduce the topic of UFO related contact experiences with non-human intelligent beings into its formal research.  Parapsychologists have conducted research and have accepted almost all of the other previously stated modalities of “Contact Experiences” but they have ignored the “pink elephant in the room” --  the fact that humans are being “visited” in our space/time by UFOs and related contact with non-human intelligent sentient beings.   Our FREE Experiencer Research Study is an attempt to bridge this gap and to introduce into the field of Parapsychology an academic study of the UFO related contact experience.   As was stated earlier, Dr. Jon Klimo and Dr. Edgar Mitchell are two of the pioneers in this field of Parapsychology.

          This grave omission of omitting the topic of UFO related “Contact” in the field of Parapsychology is probably due to many factors.  One reason is that UFO related “Contact” is one of the remaining taboo phenomena.  Many of the various contact modalities, especially NDEs and the PSI Phenomena, have been extensively studied by a diversity of interdisciplinary academic institutions (Stanford, Duke, Princeton, and the University of Virginia, etc).  One can even argue that PSI and even NDEs are now not considered a taboo topic as it was before the publication in 1975 of Dr. Raymond Moody’s historic book “Life After Life” and the early PSI works pioneered by the Stanford Research Institute in the early 1970s.  Today there are literally hundreds of academic peer-reviewed articles written by numerous Ph.D.s and medical doctors in the field of NDEs and PSI.

          UFO related Contact Experiencers are not only ignored by the field of Parapsychology but also within the field of Ufology until very recently.  Even today, UFO related Contact is not prominently featured in the numerous yearly Ufology conferences and events.  Many of the older “nuts and bolts” researchers in Ufology are now just starting to accept the fact that there are actually conscious living entities operating these crafts and that there are in fact “Experiencers” of said contact with these entities.  This was not a commonly accepted viewpoint 20 years ago.

          Another important factor that might explain the ignorance of the UFO related Contact phenomenon is that there has been a dearth of scientific evidence-based academic research, through extensive surveys and interviews, on “Experiencers of UFO related Contact”.  Most prior research in this field, while informative, have had very small sample populations and have focused on limited topic areas.  Most have involved samples of less than 50 individuals. In addition, almost all of the previous research has focused solely on “Abductions”, the action or an instance of forcibly taking someone away against their will by non human intelligent beings.  ***Today, all of the academics and researchers in our FREE Board of Directors recognize that focusing solely on “abduction” cases eliminates the majority of UFO related contact experiences with non human intelligent beings.***  The preliminary findings of our Phase 1 and Phase 2 Surveys support this initial hypothesis by revealing that “Abduction” cases are only 32% of the individuals who have had “**UFO related contact experiences with non-human intelligent beings.**” Thus, the position of our FREE Board of Directors is that we know very little about this phenomenon and in fact what is readily perceived by the public, or the field of Ufology, might be totally misunderstood and misguided.

         Because of the limitations of the entire body of previous research in this field, there clearly is a need for a scientific research study, using a large population sample in many diverse languages, to be administered worldwide, applying both a comprehensive and diverse large number of quantitative and qualitative structured survey questions and structured interviews.  A proposed research study should also incorporate individuals that have had both UFO related “abduction” experiences and those that have had non abduction related UFO contact experiences.  In addition, a study should incorporate a diverse and large population not only derived from mainstream Ufology organizations but also a population sample derived many other types of diverse organizations that might have Experiencers of all types of UFO related contact experiences.

          In addition, many of the prior research in this field has incorporated data from individuals that have had hypnotic regressions or information acquired through lucid dreaming.  This type of data can bias a study because of the problems associated with data collection via hypnotic regressions and through a dream state.  Even though hypnotic regression, in the hands of a trained mental health clinician, can be a viable tool, the regression field is very diverse, using training from a few days to a trained clinician who has had years of training, and thus this field is subject to much scrutiny.

 Therefore, FREE’s data collection is based solely on what is commonly called “**EXPLICIT MEMORY**”, which is the conscious, intentional recollection of previous experiences and information and NOT on memory from hypnotic regression, lucid dreaming, or other type of non-conscious memory recollection. People use explicit memory throughout the day, such as remembering the time of an appointment or recollecting an event from years ago.  Explicit memory involves conscious recollection, compared with “Implicit Memory”, such as memories from hypnotic regressions or a lucid dream, which is a memory from an unintentional form of memory.

          In addition, a research study needs to incorporate an automated survey collection instrument, such as Survey Monkey, to facilitate the systematic collection of a large amount of survey data.  Finally, if UFO related contact is occurring, we need to acquire data, via the same instrument, but in different languages, because this phenomenon is not related solely to the English speaking audience.  Thus, there is a need for a survey instrument and a formal interview process that should be administered in as many diverse languages as possible.  Clearly, there is a need for a new research methodology and research paradigm to properly research the diversity of UFO related Contact Experiences in a multilingual and multinational format.  Our **FREE Experiencer Research Study** attempts to address this void and this need.

        Our **FREE Experiencer Research Study** is also easily distinguished from previously stated research studies.  First, it is comprised of 2 surveys, totally over 600 total questions.  Phase 3 which involve written submissions to 60 open-ended questions. Phase 4 will involve formal one-on-one Interviews with high profile Experiencer participants.  Both the participant and the interviewer's identity will not be revealed to each other, thus maintaining the goal of complete Anonymity for our research study.  Unlike most other research studies in this field, participants were asked to base their responses on their "conscious recollection” and not on information derived from hypnotic regression.  Finally, our study in the future will consider having additional surveys and a “control group”.  Our survey data collector software is “Survey Monkey”, one of the world’s leading survey collection companies whose services are used by most major research institutions worldwide.  Our Phase 1 and Phase 2 surveys will close on December 1, 2015.

         Finally, unlike other previous research studies and small surveys that have had previously self-identified UFO related contact Experiencers, almost all of them being self-described “Abductees” and candidates previously identified by UFOLOGY organizations, our **Research Study** sought out possible candidates by circulating this information to a mailing list of over 2,500 individuals and organizations who self registered with the FREE old website, “Experiencer.Co”.  We have also circulated the survey to over 500 Facebook sites focusing on the following areas:  Ufology, MUFON groups, Paranormal, Parapsychology, Exopolitics, Consciousness, ETs/Aliens, Ancient Aliens, New Age Groups, CE-5 Groups, etc.   In addition, we sent emails to all the State and International directors and administrators of the Mutual UFO Network, a list containing approximately 100 MUFON directors nationally and internationally (MUFON is the largest Ufology organization in the world).  We also sent our request to take our Phase 1 survey to all of the known Ufology, Abduction and Experiencer organizations worldwide and to the top researchers and authors in these fields.  Finally, all radio stations focusing in these fields were also informed of our research study.  Thus, no one has attempted this diversity of public dissemination and unlike all of the previous research studies who have focused solely on “Abductions”, our public outreach was focused on informing as many individuals, organizations and websites that might have knowledge of the diversity of Experiencers of UFO related Contact.

 This comprehensive outreach to ALL possible “Experiencers of ALL types of UFO related Contact” has never been undertaken before using both an extensive and comprehensive quantitative and qualitative scientific based approach, in a multilingual and multinational format, and with the diverse publicity to such a diverse potential sample pool.

         **FREE** has also recently established a separate committee to develop an academic research study to determine if there might be a relationship between Experiencers of both UFO related Contact and individuals that have also had Near Death Experiences (NDEs).  Interestingly, our Phase 1 Survey has revealed that approximately 66% of respondents have had Out of Body Experiences (OBEs) and that approximately 29% have had BOTH an NDE experience and a UFO related Contact Experience.  This committee is comprised of 5 NDE Experiencers, 4 non academic researchers and 2 retired professors (some of these individuals fall into more than one professional-discipline category).  Retired tenured professors Dr. Jon Klimo (Psychology) and Dr. Bob Davis (Neuroscience) are the Co-Chair this new research committee.  These are just two of the hundreds of findings that we believe will totally transform the fields of “Ufology” and the “Paranormal”.

 Should you have any questions, please contact us at: **EXPERIENCER.CO@gmail.com**

Attached are three short videos of Dr. Edgar Mitchell and Dr. Rudy Schild discussing their role in FREE.

March 2015: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGKlZ1RRp4E

June 2015:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XR9X6WRITn0

August 2015:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLSMCWKoCos

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