

## Re: Marriage is under fire!!

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Date: Sun, 15 Aug 2004 06:32:08 GMT

On Sat, 14 Aug 2004 22:31:49 GMT, Rich Grise <[null@example.net](mailto:null@example.net)> wrote:

*>How do you know that there \_aren't\_ purple poka[sic]-dotted monsters eating  
>the universe?*

I don't. But I'm not going to listen to some idiot telling me they do exist, where that same idiot cannot be bothered to present a clear, evidential case with support that is commensurate with the unusual nature of the claim.

If I claim that it rained yesterday and the circumstances of the discussion don't suggest some hidden agenda and if you also know I live in Oregon (where in my area I get about 65 inches a year, spread out equally each day) then you would probably believe me without any additional evidence beyond my casual testimony. Ordinary evidence is sufficient for ordinary claims.

But if I claimed there some Martian took me to Mars in the dark of night and performed bizarre experiments on me and then brought me back here, you might quite reasonably expect a little more than my testimony. Even if I'm such a nice guy, and all. Extraordinary evidential support is needed for such extraordinary claims. Quite reasonably.

So do I listen to someone telling me about those purple monsters? Not unless they do their diligence to make their case, first. Until then, I slam the door in their face and I do so, with malice aforethought. If the person who is making the claim cannot be bothered to do the work needed to make their case, why should I stupidly pick up some shovel to start carrying their dirt for them (either -for- or -against- their claim?)

It's a simply matter of expediency. I have a limited time in my life and I have limited resources. if I allowed every nutcase in the world to push their ideas without support and then foolishly picked up the challenge to try and discredit their points, I wouldn't have any life left. And in any case, they'd just ignore me and that hard work and then go find someone else to pester.

The proper course here is to simply insist that a comprehensive case be made and that if that case isn't manifest, then the door is slammed on their face.

sci.electronics.basics: Re: Marriage is under fire!!

I've an open mind, Rich. But it's not open to those who are too lazy to carry their own water.

>*Just because I've never seen you in the flesh doesn't prove*  
>*that you don't exist. I could claim "Johathan Kirwan does not exist. It*  
>*is merely a turing machine running on a Z-8 somewhere." Or, heaven forbid,*  
>*some troll s*