

Re: audio snakeoil!

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"john jardine" <john@jjdesigns.fsnet.co.uk> wrote in message
news:cp2b7j\$10i\$1@news8.svr.pol.co.uk...

>

> *I know what you are saying but ...*

> *Conmen abound in all walks of life. They are liable to turn up anywhere.*

> *Natures parasites feeding off the weak and infirm.*

So what point are you making?

That lots of other people are crooks, so it's okay for you to do it?

I met a guy who got money out of the social security fund.

He said politicians fiddle money, why can't he?

Other guys rape other women, that doesn't make it okay for me to do it.

Put another way, you wouldn't think it okay for conmen to con you out of
your life saving when you are old, a bit senile and scared about your
declining health?

> *Although I've no interest in the subject, the 'Alternative healing' people*

> *I've come across have without exception been honest, honourable and*

> *totally*

> *sincere in their beliefs.*

Religious extremists have honestly and sincerely believed it was okay to
torture people into recanting their beliefs, on the basis that it would save
them from the eternal torments of hell.

Other cultures consider it honourable to murder their sisters/daughters if
they dare fall in love with somebody they haven't decided upon.

> *I would suggest that worse damage is wreaked daily by our much revered*

> *captains of British industry, who through incompetence, greed, neglect and*

> *lack of care, are responsible for more daily death and injury than all the*

> *new age therapists and healers be accused of over the past ten years.*

The old "other people do much worse things, so my bad things are minor in

comparison" argument is a puerile moral defence.

- > *One high profile college in London is now allowed to teach Creationism.*
- > *Obviously can't be a scam as the government supports it. Or can it?.*

The state has no authority to stop anyone from teaching a religious doctrine.

- > *The alternative medicine = 'conmen', group stereotyping label, is in the*
- > *same order as saying all British Muslims are rabid fundamentalists.*

No it bloody well isn't.

I've met Muslims, shopped in their shops, ate at their restaurants, chatted to them at work.

I haven't seen any rabid fundamentalist behaviour at all, apart from the few that make it into the tabloids. Maybe the eastern tabloids have American White Supremacists as examples of what Christian America is like?

Alternative medicine practitioners on the other hand have extremely implausible explanations for their services that stink of bullshit to high heaven. If they believe it themselves, then they are gullible at best. If they don't believe it, but sell it anyway, they are conmen.

I am a healthy sceptic. Don't imply that I'm a religious bigot.

- > *Who is pure enough of soul to point the finger?.*

Me for a start, many other people as well.

You don't need the spiritual purity of a saint to question the murky ethics of others.

If a neighbour told you that you were being burgled, would you sneer at him as a hypocrite because he once nicked a bar of chocolate?

- > *It's all a question of degree. I don't claim a monopoly on some kind of*
- > *fixed, god given morality, or even set myself up as a fixed arbiter of*
- > *taste*
- > *and decency.*

Nor do I.

But everyone is entitled to speak up when they suspect a crime is being committed.

Indeed, they are morally obliged to.

- > *There's worse things at sea.*

I've been to sea, and I didn't see any swindling going on.

> *Many contractors object to doing any work for the military or their sub
> contractors. Some object to biochemical work because of the animal testing
> or 'dual use' aspects.*

> *Others don't like the oil and motor companies for
> their usage of natural resources.*

I don't know any like that. Even serious hippies want some fuel for the vans to take them to Glastonbury and deliver their tofu burgers.

> *Engineers can also be picky wrt the security services and surveillance
> industries, police, medical, legal, you name it and someone will object.
> They're just human. If we all sung off the same sheet then there would be
> no
> industry out there.*

Nobody expects everyone to have identical scruples, as real life issues have many shades of grey.

However, most people would draw the line before selling fake medical equipment.

> *To be sure of a place at that golden table stationed on the high plateau
> of
> those of impeccable morals and noble hearts then surely we'd all be
> spending
> our time designing naff aids for the disabled.*

Nobody expects anybody to have spotless conscience, any more than for underpants.

There's a significant difference between a few unintentional skidmarks and knowingly wiping your arse with them.

For example, I might make a car engine enhancement system that kills the odd boy-racer who deliberately abuses it, but saves many lives when used properly in ambulances. This is arguably an acceptable deal. I might also make a gadget and say it helps you cheat drink-driving tests – but doesn't. You might argue that it makes the driver happier, but it makes his life worse when it really needs to work.

> *Even then I would suspect the disabled would much prefer just to be
> getting
> on with their lives even if it included paying for a bit of alternative
> healing.*

I suspect you would rather not have people pointing out your dubious professional ethics in taking money for a product you know doesn't work, and that you would prefer the disabled to pay for fake medical treatments that put money in your pocket.

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Every single one of my paid projects did exactly what it was meant to do, so from a professional work point of view, I do have a clean conscience.

K.