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Subject: Re: When did you become a Insert-Religion-Here?

Posted by [reborn](#) on Fri, 14 Jan 2011 12:09:24 GMT

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I don't know what I am. I've read the old testament, the new testament, the Quran and had some teachings of Lamrim.

My Grandmother on my Mother's side was Christian and read the bible almost daily I think.

My Grandfather on my father's side was a spiritualist, and so was his brother. Their beliefs had a clear effect on my father's family as his 4 sisters and 3 brothers all to varying degrees believe in similar aspects of spiritualism, although some are more into trance mediumship/physical/clairvoyance/healing/absent healing etc etc.

My father is a Spiritualist and goes to Church (Spiritualist Church) Twice a week. He meditates daily for approx 45 minutes, and has done for all of my life. He has also participated in a circle for physical mediumship, as well as hosted events for trance mediumship (although the preferred term is altered state, not trance) and clairvoyance.

My mother was interested in spiritualism before she met my father and they never mentioned it to each other for some time, for fear of being thought badly of. She is nowhere near as hardcore as my Dad, but she is a loving woman and knows it makes him happy, so she forgives the time he dedicates to it.

I participated in a closed circle for 2 years, Once a week. When I was younger, I irregularly went to Church to see the demonstrations mid-week, this went on for about 5 years.

I have participated out of curiosity in some of the events my father hosted, as well as some we was both invited to. I have seen transfiguration mediums such as Dianne Elliott (no relation), trance mediums such as Mark Webb and many other people practicing different aspects of mediumship. I have been to Stansted house and had readings from tutors.

I've also been on several retreats where the aim is to develop your own clairvoyance, trance and physical mediumship.

Not so much anymore, as time is always my enemy, but I used to meditate a couple of times a week, using single pointed meditation techniques and also contemplative techniques.

Some of the things I have seen have made me cringe with awkwardness, and ashamed to be in the same room with them. The sort of thing you might watch on television like "most haunted" or Derek Acorah, really pitiful stuff.

However, I've also seen with my own eyes some things that I will always remember and believe to be genuine evidence of life after death.

However, the Church I used to go to and the One my Father still goes to reads from the Christian Bible (Spiritualism is a form of Christianity, although Christians would heartily deny this and claim any spiritualist to be a devil worshipper).

I honestly do not know the true and exact principles and beliefs of Spiritualism, despite having so much involvement in it in years past. To me the bible is and was ridiculous, I was only ever interested in the demonstrations and personal development. The idea being that comfort could be given to people that have lost people close to them. They are not really gone, they are close to you and here is the proof.

I could not class myself as a Spiritualist, and despite the Bhuddist meditation and principles that I hold dear I could not claim to be a Bhuddist either. Somewhere in the middle might be appropriate.

However, it's been some years since I was involved in any of this stuff and have resolved myself to this:

I believe that life does exist after death. However, the pursuit of this evidence is a life time full of wasted time. The journey is full of fraudsters and too few genuine people. It's interesting, but I will likely not ever dedicate time to it again.

If the experiances that I have had and know to be real turn out to be tricks (either my own mind or someone else conjuring) then I will still die a happy man. I am happy to wait and find out for sure what, if anything is on the other side.

In the mean time, I am happy to try and be a good person (being a good person generally in turn makes me happy in some way or another). If I die and there turns out to be a heaven, another plane of existance or anything else, then I hope that being a good person is enough to get me on the guest list. If it isn't, then I have few regrets, and if there's someone that demands more than being a good person to get in, well, they can go fuck themselves.

I cannot put an exact date on this transition, probably around the age of 23 - Present, but it's likely the position I will hold till I die.

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