

THE NEW AGE AND ROMA DOWNEY

What does Roma Downey, the co-producer of *The Bible* miniseries, believe? We know she and her husband Mark Burnett are Catholic. But did you know she also attended the University of Santa Monica, a private graduate school founded by New Age spiritual and self-help guru John-Roger? She will graduate with a master's degree in spiritual psychology in June.



"As someone who has been on a spiritual journey for many years, it seems a natural extension of that work," says Downey. "The skills I'm learning will ultimately qualify me to be a therapist."

Says Roma, who lives in Malibu, 'My kids go to school about a 40-minute drive away. I'm open to the group's opinion about what we listen to on the way there. On the way back, I get my own selections — books on tape by Eckhart Tolle, Tony Robbins...My husband says I'm so self-realized I'm practically levitating.'

(Source)

Good to know.

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- 10 Surprising Celebrity Endorsements for 'The Bible' – The Epic TV Series Premiering Tonight (theblaze.com)
- Obama Satan Look-Alike? 'The Bible' Mini-Series Producers Call Rumors 'Utter Nonsense' (VIDEO) (christianpost.com)
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23 RESPONSES TO "THE NEW AGE AND ROMA DOWNEY"

Sharon W. #

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Mr Davis: The answer to the question posed in the last part ...



Carol Von Canon: Our word 'mark!' (as in mark of the beast) is the...



simon: we will be persecuted for not taking it, but prais...



James: This is a very truthful comment you wrote here. I ...



D: The great revival in America will not and cannot c...



STAND UP VISITORS!





I'm truly not trying to be funny here, but is there someone who could explain to me what a master's degree in "spiritual psychology" is?

March 20, 2013 at 10:30 am [Reply](#)



Sharon W. #

Excuse me...correction...."psychology"

March 20, 2013 at 10:33 am [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

sure it comes under Transpersonal psychology is a school of psychology that studies the transpersonal, self-transcendent or spiritual aspects of the human experience.

This includes include mysticism, religious conversion, altered states of consciousness, trance and spiritual practices.

<http://www.universityofsantamonica.edu/What/index.aspx>

March 20, 2013 at 7:44 pm [Reply](#)



Rose Vosburgh #

Sharon, I just googled it...

Says coursework includes just topics are these: The Mind Body Connection, Personality Testing, Meditation, Hypnosis, and Visualizaton, Issues in Life Span Development, Intuitive Counseling, Energy Psychology, Alternative Therapies, Past Lives Therapies (?!!), Life and Personal Coaching...to name a few.

A degree in 'Spiritual Psychology leads to the following careers: Teaching at a college :-), Research, Industrial and Business Consultation, Personal and Life Coaching, Private Mental Health Practice. (Yikes!)

Looks to me like the New Age is gaining ground...getting acceptance everywhere now.

March 20, 2013 at 10:03 pm [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

you also want to stay clear of the meyers briggs test this is used in many churches and is actually doing more harm then good.

March 21, 2013 at 5:07 am [Reply](#)



Sharon W. #

I remember taking the Meyers Briggs test some 27yrs. ago. It was part of the screening process in applying for a Security position at a nuclear power plant. I'm more than befuddled though in understanding as to what in the world would be the purpose of using it in an organized church?

March 21, 2013 at 11:29 am [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

I am not sure why my postings have been removed but I can only expose through my own experience in working in the field of psychology in the past I no longer do.

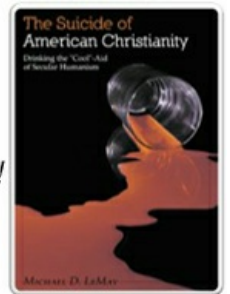
I do not find any psychological teachings and practices can ever be compatible to biblical Christianity, and many now turn to the MBTI even used in Rick Warrens materials.

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Mike's
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March 21, 2013 at 11:55 am [Reply](#)



Sharon W. #

Thanks Rose for checking it out. The New age stuff has definitely morphed into all kinds of strange teachings since I first was aware of it's impact some 25yrs. ago. Areal synchronization with "the world" and "spiritual matters".

It kinda reminds me of something I believe Jacob Prasch had said at one time where they will be using similar or same words as our faith in Christ Jesus but meaning something completely different.a definite challenge to our witnessing the truth & grace of the One True God.

March 21, 2013 at 11:48 am [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

exactly Sharon I did a series on the Reformation <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWhOpuXHnHg> during my time in London exposing ecumenical events

This was part of what I had written

Ultimate Gold was organised in conjunction and in Partnership with the ecumenical Catholic led More than Gold. Its main focus is on Mssion in an ecumenical context, Simon Clinton Pastor of Highway Church Stratford who was one of the people behind Ultimate Gold, stated to First Plumline Apologetics, he knew nothing about the Pagan Eucharistic Adoration, but in spite of his ignorance of it he agreed to place an open invitation to the Eucharistic Adoration service to encourage its visitors to Ultimate Gold to partake in the Catholic Mass of Transubstantiation, this was printed on the Ultimate Gold programme, (Please click to see image) this will show you the gross apostasy and how theologically and fundamentally flawed this really is.

<http://www.firstplumline.net/html/morethangoldultimategold.html>

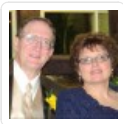
March 21, 2013 at 5:16 pm [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

The way i see it now is that hords of evangelicals are pushing for the Catholic mass, even with YWAM they have a Karigma group this is the Catholic YWAM but they are certainty disguised as "evangelical" and they are not.

March 21, 2013 at 5:18 pm



Dave Mosher #

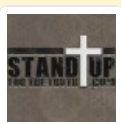
Greetings Amy and Mke! The blog was written Apr. 23, but doesn't say what year. I looked back at several previous blogs . The Mar. 25 blog refers to "this Sunday, March 28." Which would mean the Downey blog was written Apr. 23, 2010. So apparently Roma Downey graduated from USM in June 2010.

For readers wondering what Spiritual Psychology is, it is basically a New Age degree. And USM was founded by a big-name New Ager who goes by the name of John-Rogers. Very occult. I wrote a blog about this, in which I included an excerpt defining Spiritual Psychology:

<http://davemosher.wordpress.com/2013/03/05/roma-downeys-comments-about-her-new-age-spiritual-psychology-degree-show-she-is-not-a-christian-as-she-claims-but-a-new-ager/>

God bless you, and keep up the good work!

March 20, 2013 at 1:34 pm [Reply](#)



Amy Spreeman #

Thank you Dave! I will share your article on our Facebook Page as well.

March 20, 2013 at 1:53 pm [Reply](#)



SallyVee #

Great round-up of info at your blog, folks.

Oy vey! I noticed the name John Edward – The Dead Whisperer! Remember when Catherine Crier promoted that guy week after week on FoxNews? I think she single handedly propelled the guy to fame. I am told FoxNews has been promoting the Downey-Burnett series as well, with about as much discernment and depth as it applies to everything else – which is to say zilch, nada, zip. So glad we dumped cable TV a year ago... we were paying \$110/month to stream all that toxic waste into our heads.

March 20, 2013 at 3:55 pm [Reply](#)



Sharon W. #

Thanks Dave! I will take the time to read the link you gave....John Rogers, USM and spiritual psychology are not things I'm familiar with or knowledgable of....in more ways than one.

March 20, 2013 at 4:15 pm [Reply](#)



SallyVee #

John-Roger has been around forEVER (I think his badly permed remaining hair testifies to that). Michael Medved wrote about him in his book Whatever Happened to the Class of '65? – a member of that high school class got completely bedazzled by J-R.

Also, Arianna Huffington is an acolyte of J-R's... apparently to this day. Years ago when I first read about Huffington & J-R, I remember there was something about the color purple. His followers would always wear a purple blouse or scarf to signify their allegiance.

Here's a snippet found on Discover The Networks:

While visiting California [Arianna] met the man who remains her spiritual guide to this day, John-Roger (Hinkins), founder of a New Age church apparently spun off from the ECKANKAR cult teachings of Paul Twitchell. John-Roger's Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness (MSIA) is a faith based on "the Mystical Traveler, a spiritual consciousness that exists throughout all levels of God's creation."

One disciple of John-Roger's was the New York Times best-selling author Peter McWilliams. As a de-programmed ex-member, McWilliams wrote the expose Life 102: What to Do When Your Guru Sues You (1994). In this book McWilliams alleged that the charismatic John-Roger had told McWilliams the he (McWilliams) could be cured of AIDS if he wrote books giving John-Roger co-authorship and at least half of the books' profits, which the "brainwashed" McWilliams agreed to do. To this day, John-Roger insists that he was the chief writer of such co-authored best-sellers as Life 101, and implied that McWilliams was more his scribe than a co-equal author.

In Life 102 McWilliams described how Arianna Huffington, too, had been duped by John-Roger and had become a major contributor to, and an ordained minister of, MSIA. McWilliams released to the press a video of Huffington in a white robe being baptized by John-Roger. "I've gotten a lot of value from John-Roger's work," said Arianna Huffington. "He's a good friend."

See:

<http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=2010>

March 20, 2013 at 3:43 pm [Reply](#)



Miguel Hayworth #

I have worked in the area of Psychological Sciences for the University of Manchester for over 8 years <http://www.psych-sci.manchester.ac.uk/staff/MiguelHayworth/> I have no longer been involved and had since left my job,

My work at the university has not been without controversy as I had given a lecture in the diversity module of psychology the subject was faith and psychology I was introducing why they cannot be mixed and why Clinical Psychology was diametrically opposite to psychology, this was to a class of the entire 3rd year students in the doctorate program, inadvertently I gave the gospel and also the impact it has on my life, this was I think the first time every they had paid someone to do this as they admitted it was a completely new area for them, this caused a stir especially when I touched on the subject of homosexuality but of course with the consent of the programme director.

Apart from contributing teaching I was one of the biggest opponents to IAPT 1,2 & 3 (Improving Access to Psychological therapies) this is another way of co-ordinating how CBT theories are used, I produced a case that IAPT at the time had been scrapped, I have had conversations with the UK's leading CBT

specialist stating why I disagreed that CBT had been seen as the only model to recovery, when I was promoting a cheaper and proven method of health eating rather than conventional therapies, the problems with CBT is that it is based on clinical trails, as i also expressed to the university clinical trails does not necessary prove any results of long term recovery and can only meet the governments criteria of a quick fix solution to push hoards of the sick and disabled back to work, the UK government now has implemented in the working environment that psychometric evaluations should be implemented to prevent relapses.

The UK government has spent billions of pounds based on CBT led research, I wrote two articles on this at the universities publications on the universities psychology magazine.

I cannot see how we can base evidence on a individual case by case as Prof that CBT is working when they admitted they had failed as they put it was down to the therapist not the psychological method this is belloni.

Their are varied groups that I have debated in this area, but part of my work did involve the BPS British psychological society, the BPS no longer are in charge of Psychology in the UK it is all now done through the HPC Health Professionals Council.

This is not everything but the reasons for leaving is that the University had placed allot of pressure on me adapting new age and budhest practises in the way I work at the university the administrator who a liberal goes to an elim church stated for me to choose between God or Psychology, I choose God so I resigned.

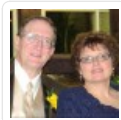
my work had involved with the teaching, formulation, developing and altering the psyc doctrate curriculum weather it is dealing in spiritual psychology that Carl Gustov Myoung did promote this was rooted in Theosophy must of what is developed for CBT's, IAPT 1, 2 and 3, Psycho-dynamic Therapy, Mndfulness techniques, Psycho-Therapy, Neuro-Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology, Human Emotion etc, many of the fundamentals of its philosophy is based on Buddhism and other eastern philosophies cannot be compatible with Christianity, Roma Dawney is dangerously mixing the two worldviews we know that the RCC does this anyway, Mark Burnett her husband has Jesuits working with him but even they have involvement with what is happening in Psychological Psudo-sciences..

I do not see how anyone can be under a correct impression that we can use anything remotely psychological and expect to impact people with it, all it will do is convince the person that psychosis is one of like problems that can help people live a quality of life without Jesus...

Former Consultant, University Of Manchester.
Working for Christ

Miguel Hayworth

March 20, 2013 at 7:31 pm [Reply](#)

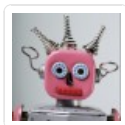


Dave Mosher #

Very interesting, Miguel. I'm been greatly concerned about Mndfulness in our local elementary schools, and have been planning to research this. I had already started researching Roma Downey's major in Spiritual Psychology. But until I saw your great comment, I did not realize Spiritual Psychology included

Mndfulness. Thank you and God bless you.

March 22, 2013 at 1:04 am [Reply](#)



Mary #

People need to know this about her. Not every program that has a spiritual element, such as "Touched by an Angel" which Christians loved, is "Christian". Far from it. Yet it was so popular for so long. Now that spiritual leaven has come home to roost because I hear so many believers who think that the History Channel is capable, or even wants to, make a movie about the bible that is solid and true. The naiveite of the church that believes it is entitled to entertainment is stunning.

March 21, 2013 at 10:40 am [Reply](#)



Rose Vosburgh #

Excellent comment!

March 21, 2013 at 9:15 pm [Reply](#)



Missy #



Wow, I was not familiar with John-Roger, but I would really love for someone to ask Roma about this. The University has endorsement quotes on their site from Barbara Marx-Hubbard, Jean Huston? How can anyone think that to be compatible with their Christian faith?

I found an old LATimes article on John-Roger that is quite eye opening:

http://articles.latimes.com/1988-08-14/news/ww-882_1_john-forsythe

and

http://articles.latimes.com/1994-11-01/news/mn-57257_1_arianna-huffington

March 21, 2013 at 5:30 pm [Reply](#)



Dave Mosher #

This article gives a New Age definition of Spiritual Psychology. http://katenesbitt.net/what_is_spiritual_psychology Note that: 1) the writer graduated from the same school as Roma Downey. And 2) Downey has stated elsewhere that she hopes to become a "therapist" (similar to this writer, I assume).

March 22, 2013 at 9:45 am [Reply](#)



Neil #

What few people will bring about this couple is their many marriages. Did Roma Downey marry and divorce three times and if so, were they according to scripture? The answer is no because all three of her previous husbands are alive. How can someone who ignores scripture be trusted to bring it to life through a movies

series?

March 23, 2013 at 7:22 pm [Reply](#)



4Grace #

Is it true that Roma Downey supported Obama in this last election? I wasn't sure what I heard.

March 28, 2013 at 7:48 am [Reply](#)

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