

### **NDEs and Satisfaction with Life**

To the Editor:

I read with great interest Bruce Greyson's paper (1994) on near-death experiences (NDEs) and satisfaction with life, a very needed research area. He wrote that the results—that NDErs were equally as satisfied with life as were nonexperiencers—were counterintuitive. Indeed they were, and I am not sure his explanations clarified all that made them so. I never believed that NDErs were messianic figures who would turn the world on the right track, as they are portrayed by some; but I expected something positive on the whole.

Could a bias in Greyson's sampling have contributed to the negative results? In my review (1994) of Kenneth Ring's book *The Omega Project* (1992), in which he sampled subjects from the membership of the International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS), I pointed out how unrepresentative that group is of the American population. Greyson's study also may be slanted by IANDS' unrepresentativeness. Maybe a new sample of unselected subjects, a sample referred by friendly physicians and nurses, would help clarify this point.

Let me emphasize that Greyson has put his finger on the right spot: we badly need clear insights into this area of research. I am just suggesting a little more.

## References

- Greyson, B. (1994). Near-death experiences and satisfaction with life. *Journal of Near-Death Studies*, 13, 103-108.
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- Ring, K. (1992). *The Omega Project: Near-death experiences, UFO encounters, and mind at large*. New York, NY: Morrow.

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