

INVESTIGATION OF THE PHENOMENOLOGY AND IMPACT OF SPONTANEOUS AND DIRECT AFTER-DEATH COMMUNICATIONS (ADCs)

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A spontaneous and direct After-Death Communication (ADC) occurs when a person unexpectedly perceives a deceased individual through the senses of sight, hearing, smell, or touch. Very commonly, persons who experience an ADC (experients) solely “feel the presence” of the deceased person or perceive a contact or a communication during sleep or hypnagogic states.

ADCs occur frequently, with research having found that 50%-60% of people have experienced one or more spontaneous and direct ADCs during their lifetime. Testimonies collected on all continents and for centuries suggest this phenomenon to be universal and timeless. Despite their widespread occurrence, ADCs, paradoxically, have been little researched and are absent from the media and public discourse. As a consequence, experients usually have no frame of reference in terms of which to understand, integrate and fully benefit from this experience which doesn't match mainstream conceptions of reality.

The Project:

Mixed methods, originally a multilingual (English, French, Spanish) survey, followed by a German, Dutch and currently Chinese survey

Our aim is to describe the phenomenology of ADCs

- Who has an ADC
- Under which circumstances
- In what form/type

- What are the messages
- Who are the deceased persons allegedly initiating the contact
- Are there differences between countries

An important factor to analyse is the impact of the ADC on the recipient;

- How does it influence the grieving process
- What are the immediate and longer term effects
- Does the national and social context influence these effects



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