

Joe (if I may),

Having read your statement regarding the *Derren Brown Investigates* television special, I am incredibly surprised at the number of instances that the term "sceptic" was used incorrectly therein. You seem to have confused scepticism, which means a suspension of belief/disbelief about truth claims until they have been validated or disproved, with cynicism, which means to presume a falsehood until proven otherwise. Had Derren approached his television special from a cynical perspective then you would definitely have a stronger foundation upon which to base your annoyance.

As it stands, Derren seemed to represent your position as fairly as possible, given your unwillingness to aid him in providing any sort of proof for your claims, besides that which could be explained by purely natural and non-metaphysical means. Obviously, as stated clearly by Derren many times during the show, this leaves viewers with two possibilities. You could come away from watching the show believing that your metaphysical claims are true on the basis that they cannot be disproved, or else you can choose to accept that until proof can be provided we must look to more satisfactory explanations based on what we *do* know and on evidence pertaining to how the world works.

No one seems to be attacking you except yourself; the only negative portrayal of what you do came from your refusal to undergo an objective test, which would remove the possibility of deception. With this in mind, I really can't understand why, if your claims are true (which we mustn't rule out), you wouldn't welcome some kind of validation.

Very best,

A Bemused Channel 4 Viewer