

## #1 - E-mail to Jonathan Kamm

“Hey Jonathan,

I'm sorry that you were banned from the board. Unlike the other administrators I didn't approve the ban because I wasn't done discussing yet nor did I want the discussion to be over. That doesn't mean that the admins weren't correct on you not following the rules. I don't necessarily agree on the "accusing a well-respected forumer of 'False advertising' twice" though but that's because I couldn't care less.

I just read back the thread and I must apologize for my tone of voice in my latest posts. You are very right by saying one could do whatever they want (as long as it doesn't involve killing anyone or anything else against the law). Whenever anyone said something was wrong and should be done differently it were just suggestions to have you get rid of unnecessary haters. That is those who hate on you because of the what-they-see-as-bad actions as mentioned in the thread. As you couldn't care less as for those.. then so be it.

Take care.

Mark”

## #2 - Reply to Jonathan Kamm

"Hey Jonathan,

Thank you for the reply. I would like to go into detail on it. Definitely not to disagree on everything because a lot of the email actually made a lot of sense but just to share my views on it.

I personally don't see bashing somebody behind their back as a bad thing but that may be just me. I myself have been bashed behind my back plenty of times and whenever I'm getting bashed nowadays I always have to find out about it through others. The MVD staff and their elite members were the only ones to ever bash on me in my face and even they decided to bash me behind my back too. When the other day the hidden MVD forums were exposed to the public due to a forum bug and a lot of people including myself got to read a thread in which higher leveled members gathered to bash me. How do you think I felt? I was upset, frustrated and extremely thankful that I had been hooking up with over a 100 MVD users on MSN so that I was able to take more than 30 active members with me when I left. Something I could never be forgiven for and something that left a huge mark on the website even till today. I think it was well-deserved though. They didn't send nor even thought about sending my prize when I won their April contest and they removed threads every single time when I told them what they did to me. That is just two of the over ten unforgivable things they did to give me a hard time. Even if any of my videos would've been actually edited those things wouldn't be right to do from any point of view. Strangely enough it are just those staff and elite members that still hate and/or disagree on me and my magic all over the internet today. So I grew up in a magic culture in which bashing somebody behind their back was and still seems to be quite a normal thing to do.

People like to have transparency on what's going on in this world. This doesn't mean it has to happen behind someone's back but it was a big question whether you should or shouldn't know about the thread when it was posted. Eventually I hooked up with dougall360 who told me he was writing you a PM based on what he had just read in the forums. He didn't mention the forums in the message he was about to send you till I told him to actually mention them because I felt that you should've known about it. I didn't take long before you joined. As expected.

I'd say it's an internet thing. There are tons of well-respected people who write either good or bad stuff on others. I don't think this does necessarily make them bad people though. They do it to give transparency. If anyone would flat out call me horrible names I'd gladly tell the whole world that that person did that. Does that person have to know about me posting that? I'd say not. What if a celebrity secretly marries and because I past the church at the right time I found out about it? It's up to the rest of the world to care about it or to ignore it. When you're an authority you are in fragile position like that. Politicians and artists like yourself and I are able to tell. People could eventually even write lies about you. It's still up to the rest of the world to believe it or not. Being an authority you also have enough back-up to actually prove lies wrong. Otherwise we could better just hide in the basement waiting for everyone to forget about us and then starting our careers all over. Everything has its positive and negative sides and for authorities gossip is considered to be one of the negative ones.

Professionalism to me is much more than behaving like one. People like Brian Tudor and De'vo may be extremely good at magic or XCM and they sure are professionals but by their behavior one would say that they are amateur cardists who don't have any idea how bad they are because they react exactly like that. And De'vo would talk bad on others in the most horrible ways and do the most horrible things to people. Again it's up to the rest of the world to decide whether it's good or not. For De'vo that means that other than his own community members no one likes him anymore. If it wasn't for the transparency and for other authorities to let the rest of the world know about it no one would've known and everyone would be in love with a maniac who was believed to be everyone's hero. Unfortunately that's exactly what caused the second World War as well.

Professionalism to me means to be able to make a living out of what you do. Every artist who could make a living out of the entertainment industry is a professional. This doesn't necessarily mean that they also do indeed make a living out of it because that's up to them. And in some cultures you would have to take a second job because making enough money out of the art itself may be simply impossible. You still make a living out of the art then but you just have a second job to complete this. Professionalism usually requires skills but for some people it may as well be non-skills to make them be able to make a living out of the art they practice. A good example is extremely bad singers who get to sing extremely bad all around the world and who make a lot more money than many skilled singers. They still are professional entertainers.

If professionalism would indeed be based on behavior I would also see pulling conclusions as a big part of that. A professional who would judge my magic based on just the online videos would then maybe say that it's "entertaining and inspiring no matter if it's video editing or not" and other things that are actual facts rather than assumptions. I hooked up with a lot of my haters to actually have great chats with them and to show them my magic live on camera and in real life. I allowed them to look with the most hateful and skeptical eyes possible yet they always ended up as actual supporters because they had seen it with their own eyes. Criss Angel has proven that "live magic" is in no way confirming if something is real or not. Funny is that when I posted a live performance on the original 'Force Impossible' concept on MVD on what it should look like and what reactions it should get.. a lot of elite and staff members called it fake while the effect involved one single stooge and was shown to be performed surrounded by over 10 others who reacted the best way possible. This was before the 'Force Impossible' was even invented and I never even said that it was done clean in that video.

Let's get back on fake live performances. Of course there are tells in for instance the audience's reaction whether they are fake. But it still fools over 75% of all people who watch it on YouTube. Watching it with your own eyes is the only actual validation one could get. Criss performs live shows with stunts that are in no way comparable to what people see on TV which is dishonest. I on the other hand perform the things people could find on YouTube and it will look no different because it is no different. Being labeled the most popular Dutch magician on YouTube I get a whole lot of requests by real life haters, skeptics, hecklers and supporters who couldn't believe what they seen on YouTube and there is no way that I could actually ignore or reject those requests.

And someone could call your live performances fake and say you hired a restaurant with actors to function as your audience. How would you prove it wrong? The only true ways are to have witnesses back you up or to have the person watch it with their own eyes. That's how I got rid of my biggest haters and skeptics and that is what I believe to be the only true ways. I must add that most of those haters have been flat out hating on me in forums in the past but were kind enough not to bash on me in my face when contacting me or when I contacted them.

I think everything has been said from both our sides now. I sure will keep in mind to contact you whenever needed.

Take care.

Mark”