

LESSONS LEARNED RECORDING RADIO SWEEP EVP FOR CRIME CASES

Before I begin to tell you my story or my year long journey recording Radio Sweep EVP “Electronic Voice Phenomena” for Crime Cases, first let me introduce myself.

My name is Michael Edwards, originally from Miami Florida, who now lives in a small town outside Raleigh, North Carolina. I was introduced to Radio Sweep EVP by chance one February evening in 2008 while watching an airing of Paranormal State. It was during this airing they tested a “Frank’s Box” which is a homemade EVP Radio Sweep device built by a man named Frank Sumption.

After the show ended, I Googled the show, and contacted Frank Sumption to inquire how I could get a radio like his, so I could contact my late father, Hobert Collin Edwards.

Frank explained I truly needed some sort of electronics background to build his radio, and that he would gladly provide me the plans, but he suggested I just go to Radio Shack and buy a model 12-469 pocket/jogger/walker’s radio. Frank directed me to a You Tube video where one of his colleague and fellow Radio Sweep EVP researcher Mike Colleta had recorded detailed instructions how to take this radio apart and cut the mute pin, so the radio would scan continuously un-muted. Frank made me aware since this radio had an internal speaker, I should get an external speaker for the radio to use with recording Radio Sweep EVP.

So to get started recording Radio Sweep EVP, I essentially needed the radio, an external speaker and a digital recorder.

On this site, you can review my step by step recording process I have written and modified quite often over this past year.

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/SDWR-SpeakingToTheDeadWithRadios-/>

Recording Radio Sweep EVP with Crime Victims:

Unlike recording Radio Sweep EVP for family/friends, recording Radio Sweep EVP with crime victims is a whole different ballgame, and can be quite graphic and disturbing.

Over the past year, from April 23rd 2008 to June 2009, I have recorded Radio Sweep EVP for about 20 or more crime/missing person cases, mostly with what is known as an Advocate. An advocate is an intermediary person between me, the Radio Sweep EVP recorder, and the police. The advocate deals directly with the police and also with private investigators or search teams that fall outside law enforcement realm.

Of the 20 or so cases, only one did I record and work directly with police, and this case was actually solved. For this case, I recorded with the victim to find his girlfriend who

knew who the killer was. The victim gave me her location, and she was found and interviewed resulting in an arrest thereafter.

As for the other cases, I worked most with an advocate, and worked a handful in which I mailed in recordings to police on cases in the news, cases I was not asked to get involved with.

So what have I learned that can help you perhaps in your quest to one day record Radio Sweep EVP for crime cases, and/or help you decide if you want to take this route?

Well if I had to do it all over again, I would think twice about doing it.

First, as you already know, recording Radio Sweep EVP is the easy part, but denoising, segmenting the files into smaller units, and then listening to and transcribing what you heard is very long and laborious work to say the least. I am talking hours of hard work to get info that is clear enough to hear with at least headphones by most people.

Through my year-long experience the negatives outweigh the positives.

Positives Recording Crime Radio Sweep EVP:

- You receive messages that are answers from questions your advocate/detective asked you to get that lead to a body, evidence or even an arrest.
- You get personal messages to the living family members who validate they are real
- You get personal messages of thanks to you from the victim

Negatives Recording Crime Radio Sweep EVP:

You get messages even through denoise and segmentation that can not be understood.

- In just about every Radio Sweep EVP Crime recording I have performed, there are words/messages, no matter how much I segment them or denoise them, or amplify, reverse, or slow or change speed; I still do not understand them. For these I just ignored them, and moved on.

You get messages that lead investigators to the wrong location with no usable results.

- For one of my cases, the victim was giving out names of people that were involved in her murder, even providing the first and last names of these individuals, names that came through the radio quite clear, but through follow-up by investigators, they were dead ends, and in the end her husband was arrested for the crime.
- Don't think for a moment that just because you get an intelligent voice/message as opposed to a voice heard only in psychic's head, that it is 100% accurate.
- That was a big mistake I made. I thought that because I could hear it, that it was 100% accurate.
- What you are hearing is just like any other lead or tip someone sends into police, and it has to be looked at, but never does anyone take it as fact until it is proven

You get messages that are actually from another deceased person who happened to chime in while you recorded with your intended victim.

- This I am convinced has happened to me many times, and some I know for a fact they were. For example, I would be recording with one victim, and another victim from one case would get on and talk about who murdered him. Over and over again he would say the name of the person that killed him, and the only reason I knew it was not part of the current case, is the supposed killer had a unique name. I tell you I would say prayers that when I recorded with others that this other victim would not get on and corrupt my messages with his messages about his case. But after many prayers, and about 4 months, he stopped getting on my recordings with other victims. It was so bad this victim would use profanity, the F word etc to try and get my attention.
- I have also had other spirits talk of how they died, and in one recording with one victim, I recorded three different death scenarios where for example, one message said I was shot, I was strangled, and the other was poisoned.

You get messages about the crime, with descriptions what happened, and info on body locations, and even names of people involved, and find out later the victim is still alive.

- Over this past year, I have recorded two cases and received hours of data about how the victim died, etc, only to find out later that both were found alive.
- What this tells me is other spirits are either goofing off with me or they are telling me their story even though I am not recording with them.
- Every time you record Radio Sweep EVP for any purpose whether it is family/friend recording or a crime recording, you are faced with getting the wrong info.
- Recording Radio Sweep EVP can be compared with correspondence on the internet. You just don't know who you are really talking with.
- If I am recording with my dad or close relative/friend, I feel more comfortable what messages are real, but with unknowns. I am engaged in uncharted territory.

Your advocate is not sharing your hard work with police or investigators.

- This has happened quite a bit and whenever I countered as to why, the response was always the same. "Police do not want info from you because it is paranormal, and police work to scientific methods and not to what is heard in mind or on a radio". So the advocates just add it to what they have from others and share with private investigators or search teams to follow up on.
- Unless you get lucky as did I with that one case where police were willing to work with me, or you have through some sort of network have developed a relationship where police trust and will work with you, your hard work will not go very far, and very likely may get thrown away.
- My best advice when recording crime Radio Sweep EVP is work only with police, and if you can not do that, then do not attempt it. Police know what puzzle pieces need to be filled and they can give you the right questions to ask.

Police/Advocates are working in one direction and your recordings are painting a different scenario from what they believe happened

- In some of my cases I have recorded Radio Sweep EVP that painted a different scenario than what police were working toward. For example in one case, police believed a boy was killed and disposed of by his father, but the victim in Radio Sweep EVP detailed he walked in on his stepmother having sex with another man, and it was that man that killed and dispose of him. The victim even gave names, but police did not want to test this out as they were convinced the father perpetrated the crime even though they had no body or evidence thereof.

You missed a critical whisper in front of another word that would stop investigators from looking where they are looking...

- In one of my first case this actually happened.
- First I was working with advocate, and they had me focusing on a last seen location for the victims body, and of the two sites, lets say site A and site B, when I asked if his body was at either site, I got Site B.
- At this time, I was not using a denoising program, I was not segmenting the files into smaller units, I was only listening for what I could hear outright loud, and I was allowing 60 seconds for the answer and not the 10 seconds I allow now.
- I recording for several months on this last seen location, and when a private search team went into Site B, they found a gun and some other items, but not the body.
- After this discovery, I went back and tool those files and denoised them, and segmented them, and found I missed a series of whispers before the word Site B. It really said “My body is not at Site B” Had this been identified early on, I would not have wasted all those hours combing that area in the Radio Sweep EVP messages, but also the gun and the other items would have been overlooked too.
- What is key is you need to allow no more than 10 seconds for an answer to your question, and you must denoise and segment those files into smaller units and listen for every whisper, animated, and even fast sounding voices, as they are key to truly understanding the true message.
- While it is true that the recorder does not always pick up the complete message, meaning some words will obviously missing in a sentence, there are whisper messages you must enhance to hear what they say, that is to the best of your ability./

Who are the Radio Sweep EVP Messages Coming From:

When I record Radio Sweep EVP with my father, as I mentioned several times above, intuitively I have a good idea which messages are from my dad or from another spirit

saying their piece on my recorder. So you have to listen and determine what is meant for you, and what is potentially another spirit.

This is a continuous problem when recording Radio Sweep EVP with a key deceased person, in that you have no control who enters your recording space. You could be asking your dad questions, but Billy, Tommy, and Joe who happen to be passing by and sit to listen, their side conversations with each other can get picked up on your recording with your dad, and now you are faced with a who is who situation.

When I record for others, I always tell them to listen to what have meaning to them, and to understand that other spirits can and do chime in.

My Advice to you in Recording Radio Sweep EVP for Crime Cases:

Work only with police.

- They know what puzzle pieces they need to fill, and they can give you those questions to get the answers they need. Advocates may have you record for questions that are not needed to solve the crime, and that again is allot of hard work on your part to record and document when it will not help in the investigation.
- Ensure you have a documented process that explains to them how you record, segment, denoise, and transcribe your messages.
- Do not post your crime recordings to any internet site. This is info that only you and the police should know and have access to. If necessary you can create a secure password protected site for police to access, but do not post where you have no control over that info.

Do not jump on news cases uninvited:

- I made this mistake too many times, jumping on cases I was not asked to get involved with, and police are not happy with your sending them files

Record to a Documented Process:

- Allow no more than 10 seconds for the deceased victim to answer the question. You will be surprised how many messages are compressed in 10 seconds, and with that one file, you will end up with 3 or more segmented files to open them up for better hearing
- Make sure before you start asking questions, you get a message they are dead or alive. Ask for the words dead or alive. Other spirits will know if the victim you are trying to contact is dead or alive
- Try your best to get a confirmation message from the victim that will tell you they are the victim you need to record with. For example, show them a picture of a family member and ask they tell you who it is.
- Segment your files into smaller units
- Denoise your files. See my process for instructions

- Transcribe into a spreadsheet document
- Transcribe all whispers, animated voices, fast and slow voices as every message is a potential lead to discovery
- When you mail or e-mail your transcriptions, make sure you provide a hard copy of the transcriptions along with the file, in case they can not open it.
- Explain to those you send this to, that some of these message can be from another spirit, and they have to listen to what makes sense to follow up on.

Conclusion:

This concludes the end of what I have learned thus far, and I wish you the very best in recording and capturing Radio Sweep EVP!

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