



McGill
University

Foundations & Philosophy of Science Unit

1984.12.03

Dr Ruggero Maria Santilli, President
The Institute of Basic Research
96 Prescott Street
Cambridge MA 20138
USA

Re: SCIENTIFIC ETHICS and IL GRIDO

Dear Dr Santilli

Over the past few days I have received several letters and phone calls from physicists, mathematicians and science watchers inquiring about the new journal SCIENTIFIC ETHICS to be published by the Institute. They were particularly interested in the relation between the journal and your book IL GRIDO, where apparently you denounce a conspiracy to quash any attempts to criticize or test Einstein's theories.

I learned about this book of yours only through a flyer accompanying the announcement of the new journal, and even this through the courtesy of one of my correspondents. I was dismayed to read that flyer, which, as that correspondent put it, makes you appear like a paranoid crackpot.

I know of course that you have earned an international reputation as a highly original physicist specialized in theoretical particle physics and in mathematical physics, and as the editor of the international journal Hadronic Journal. Unfortunately most of those who received the flyer together with the announcement of the new journal do not know this. Consequently, many of those who are genuinely interested in the ethics of science are likely to be put off by that accidental association.

This unfortunate association of the birth of the new journal with the flyer on your book leaves me no choice but to withdraw the editorial you asked me to write for the first issue of SCIENTIFIC ETHICS. It also forces me to mail copies of this letter to all those who wrote or phoned expressing their concern over seeing my name in the flyer on the journal.

I hope that, despite bearing an unfortunate birthmark, SCIENTIFIC ETHICS, while blowing the whistle on well documented cases of censorship and fraud in mathematics and in science, will abstain from making vague accusations, and will generally be a serious journal.

Sincerely

Mario Bunge
Professor and Head

