

# Psychic Reader or Intuitive Counselor: What's the Difference?

by [Nancy Laine](#)

In my recent interview with Marcella Zinner, a well-known Intuitive Counselor from the Tampa Bay area of Florida, we discussed the difference between psychics and intuitive counselors, and how to tell the difference between a true professional and a "corner psychic". (or scam artist?)

**NANCY LAINE:** Why do you call yourself an "intuitive counselor" instead of a "psychic reader"? Aren't they the same?

**MARCELLA ZINNER:** They can be the same, however, an intuitive counselor contributes counseling and guidance as well as psychic impressions. One reason I use the term "Intuitive Counselor" is because the title is more commonly accepted and understood than the word "psychic". My sessions with a client include my psychic abilities as well as counseling guidance and wisdom to help people change their lives. Because of my extensive education, training and experience, my client sessions are professional, thorough and much different than a basic "psychic reading". Therefore, I strive to be a professional able to offer extremely meaningful, helpful and insightful information for others for their highest and best good. My goal is provide the best service possible. My passion is to help others heal.

**NANCY LAINE:** What exactly is meant by a "reading"? A "reading" is just a description of a session with a psychic reader. A psychic or intuitive uses their psychic abilities to sense, feel, "hear" and/or "see" the energy fields of a person. From this energetic field emanates the energy of emotions, feelings, influences, and desires. A gifted psychic can interpret this for the client into meaningful information including impactful reactions to the client and other people around them, possible outcomes, and estimated time frames. As with any profession, a reader's abilities range from merely slightly able to feel "something" to incredible insights, visions, predictions and outcomes accompanied with deep spiritual wisdom and guidance. Never be timid or shy when you call to make an appointment with a psychic. Ask them about their experience and training. Ask them how they got started in this profession. Ask them if they are licensed. Some counties and states require licenses. Ask if they tape record the

session or mind if you tape the session. Always ask how long the session will be and what is the exact fee. Ask if they accept checks and/or credit cards.

**NL:** Do you agree with the definition of "psychic reader" as being someone who uses his or her intuition to make predictions? Do you make predictions?

**MZ:** Yes, but that's another reason I don't often use the word "psychic" to describe myself. It just doesn't accurately define me and what I do. I include the psychic impressions I get in a reading but I also believe in wisdom, insight and guidance. Information is not enough, it is important to give the client tools to enable change. I don't just tell them, "Well I see this, and that, and so on and so forth". This is an actual **counseling** session to help them find out where their blocks and struggles are, what they are, how to change, and what to do to facilitate that change

**NL:** How can one tell the difference between a "basic psychic" as you say, and someone claiming to be a "true professional"?

**MZ:** True professionals conduct themselves accordingly. They do not claim that they can solve all your problems, they do not claim they can absolutely "take that black cloud" away, or make outrageous claims if you will pay them exorbitant amounts of money or other types of monetary payment.

Professional readers generally have training or credentials that validate their spiritual or intuitive expertise. The same is true in any field. It's taken them a lot of time and hard work to get there--and it's often been very *expensive!* We are fortunate nowadays because there are many sources of psychic and intuitive training programs available. There are even spiritual and holistic colleges that offer expert training. If one feels they are called to this profession, I always recommend they search out qualified teachers to learn and practice under. Ethics and integrity are of the utmost importance.

**NL:** Where have you received much of your training?

**MZ:** I first began my studies with a variety of spiritual psychic teachers. I then began a two year course of study at The College of Metaphysical Studies where I earned a Master's Degree in spiritual counseling. Then I traveled to various places and took courses with many very talented psychics. I then enrolled in the Psychic Development courses at the Edgar Cayce Foundation at Virginia Beach,

Va. This program took me four years but it was worth all the time and effort. I auditioned and was awarded the honor of Panel Psychic for the Edgar Cayce Foundation. I serve on their "Wayshower" program. I have also studied in England and Wales. I am currently studying with Dr. Norman Shealy towards a PhD in Transpersonal Psychology.

**NL:** I would imagine that most of us never knew such credentials even exist!

**MZ:** Yes, credentials do exist and are becoming more and more available.

**MZ:** Because I have invested much time and effort and studying for my profession, I attract quality professional clients. Most of my clients are referrals, and come back over and over again. Not because they have so many life problems but because they seek guidance and direction for what is best for them. Life has many twists and turns. Seeking psychic guidance helps to steer one towards their own individual peace, harmony, fulfillment and prosperity.  
*Isn't that what we all are seeking?*