



BP - Hyper-rational

Another interesting thing about Einstein is that his corpus callosum - connecting left and right hemispheres - was thicker when he died than in brain specimens far younger. His left logical/analytical/verbal/linear hemisphere was in constant communication with the right creative/non-linear/intuitive/transcendent hemisphere. The bridge between his two hemispheres was very well-developed because he used both of them.

In fact, Einstein said “Imagination is more important than knowledge.”

He compared rational thinking to the faithful servant and intuition to the sacred gift...but we have created a society that honors the servant and forgot the gift.

He also said that the source of his thoughts are not words or language, but rather they are images and “psychical entities” - but education is verbal (left brain) and not imagistic (right brain):

“[t]he words of the language, as they are written or spoken, do not seem to play any role in my mechanism of thought. The psychical entities which seem to serve as elements in thought are certain signs and more or less clear images which can be 'voluntarily' reproduced and combined....” Einstein

What happens when someone doesn't develop the right hemisphere [BP-Hemispheres] to draw on its faculties in communication with the left? What if “voluntarily” becomes “automated” as a deficient, imbalanced, default setting?

Research has shown that the right hemisphere is more tied to our emotional brain, and keeps an accurate record of events. What happens when rational thinking is unchecked and not balanced by the right hemisphere?

Roger Sperry's and Michael Gazzaniga's research on split brain subjects showed that a left hemisphere not in healthy cooperation and communication with the right will literally make up reasons for things that have nothing to do with actual facts. That's one of the hazards of an undeveloped right hemisphere.

Our educational system and our society focus almost exclusively on left hemisphere specialties, ignoring the right hem, the **frontal lobe** [BP-Frontal Lobe] (meaning seeking/assigning), and the **emotional/animal brain** [BP-Emotional Brain]

Hyper-rationalists make up things and are driven by emotions they are unaware of which literally color their perception and reality. They are not introspective but



outwardly focused (and distracted); they are not transcendent in their conscious thought processes but focus on purely material considerations; they are not reflective, they are dogmatic. There is scientific dogma as well as religious dogma. The left hemisphere is very in step with the materialist, mechanistic, Newtonian scientific paradigm.

Hyper-rational, hyper-dominant left brain people have the emotional/animal brain like everyone else. Everyone is an emotional creature with emotional needs but many are unaware of old unresolved emotions which become unconscious drivers and filters.

Hyper-rationalists need things to be rationally logical. That's what's in their wheel house and that's what they are comfortable with.

If evidence indicates the chain of cause and effect includes NON-linear, NON-material, or subjective causes arising outside of space-time, a hyper-rationalist will not be able to see it. Nobel brain scientist Roger Sperry said consciousness is a causal reality, but the hyper-rational mind has an emotional need for a material, mechanical, particle explanation. And Jonas Salk (inventor of polio vaccine) wrote a book *Anatomy of Reality: Merging Intuition and Reason*.

Regardless of the evidence for it, this **new set of operating assumptions** [BP-New Operating Assumptions] creates too much cognitive dissonance and emotional discomfort.

The more left hemisphere someone is, the more they are disconnected from or unaware of their emotions (and the roots of them). But that is not to be confused with not being emotional.

Time in LinkedIn discussions provides a real life laboratory to test and track how emotional needs color perception and over-ride logic or deny evidence and patterns that clearly exist. **The unconscious drive to protect against painful or disconcerting/threatening facts leads to ignoring some obvious things and making up other ridiculous things...all in the name of being rational.**

The neocortex emerged from its predecessor, the **animal/emotional brain** (<http://continuumcenter.net/BP/BPEmotionalBrain.pdf>). **If the brain system that is foundational to the neocortex is ill-developed, how can the neocortex be fully or healthfully functional?** We have done a lousy job developing our emotional faculties because we think emotions aren't really real and because we think animals are dumb so the brain we share can't be worth much of our time and attention. The current paradigm positions emotions as something to be managed or "cured" by use of cognitive, rational thought, or chemical interventions.



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Because the hyper-rationalist, very influenced by the emotional brain, is without needed self-awareness and distance from purely physical material considerations, those unprocessed emotions grant material considerations too much power. Insecurities and fears become reinforced. Fear comes from the illusion of separation and confusing physical circumstances as the whole of reality.

That's what hyper-rational thinking does, and what a left-brain education system does. **We train our perception for seeing parts and separation, language and labeling, binary analytical logical thinking. We feel safe when we can predict and control material logistics. But people feel epidemically anxious insecure...and far less safe. Fear feeds more separation and materialist goals of prediction, control and domination.**

For balance we need the right hemisphere, with its strong ties to the emotional brain and its introspective and transcendent capacities.

In '94 (at Independence Hall) **Vaclav Havel, first president of the Czech Republic** said: *"The truly reliable path to peaceful co-existence and creating cooperation must start from what is at the root of all cultures and lies in human hearts. It must be rooted self-transcendence. **Transcendence is the only real alternative to extinction.**"*

*"A human being is a part of the whole, called by us "Universe". **He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings, as something separated from the rest - a kind of optical illusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a prison restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. We must widen our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty.**" **Einstein***

He also asked how an intelligent person could stay away from the Greeks.

Greeks philosopher scientists warned us that the material world is an illusion, and our 5 senses deceive us and even before then the Vedas spoke of Maya, the illusion of the physical world. We have been warned that these 3 dimensions +time and these 5 senses are not the full extent of reality and we should not imprison ourselves to those limitations. But it is to those constraints that we teach and to those material parts and processes which we are trained by advertisers and experts to direct our attention. Those constraints match up perfectly with left hemisphere specialties.

Harvard neuroanatomist Jill Bolte Taylor suffered a stroke that shut down her left hemisphere. She perceived from and could work with only her right hemisphere.

"For eight years I did not exist as a solid; I existed as a fluid entity in a fluid environment. When I lost that perception of "solid" and that defined boundary of my body, I became at one



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*with all that is. **That is a very different way of perceiving yourself in relationship to your external world. This was a marvelous experience**—to be that enormous in the absence of the distraction of language that has to label everything in my world.*

*Our academic system is designed to reward extreme left-hemisphere gifts and behavior. **If you look at our level of aggression in society, it tells us what is going on in the left hemisphere.** It gets stressed out; it is on a timetable, so it's always urgent and always late and behind, and this results in a snappish attitude and behavior. **To the left hemisphere, everything is either right or wrong; It is all about hierarchy,** so I know where I sit on that ladder—what's above me and what's below me—and I have to behave accordingly to fit into my little box. Okay, that's one way of being. But how happy are these people?"*

A “modern” education system focusing on left hem faculties (math, science, technology, linear and rational thinking, and verbal skills) is not balanced by the right hemisphere which is more grounded in emotions, introspection, possibility thinking, and greater self-awareness. All the latter are dangerously lacking, and the holes are being filled with frustrations and alienation... medications and addictions. **It's time for a shift.**