

40 STUDIES THAT CHANGED PSYCHOLOGY: STUDY GUIDE

<b>Article Title &amp; Year of Publication:</b>	
<b>Major Psychologists or Study Author/s:</b>	
<b>Theoretical propositions:</b> What aspects of human behavior were the researchers interested in?	
<b>Methods of study:</b> How did the psychologists conduct their research?	
<b>Study results and significance:</b>	
<b>Criticisms:</b>	
<b>Subsequent research / Recent applications:</b>	
<b>Personal Reaction:</b>	

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One Brain or Two? The split brain in man, 1967 (pp.1-10)	
<b>Major Psychologists or Study Author/s:</b>	
<p><b>Roger Sperry</b> (15yrs prior to current study)- specialized abilities of 2 halves of brain / split-brain research founder; Nobel Prize-1981; cats post-surgery covered eyes &amp; relearn maze</p> <p><b><u>Michael Gazzaniga</u></b></p>	
<b>Theoretical propositions:</b> What aspects of human behavior were the researchers interested in?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 brain hemispheres in constant talk via Corpus Callosum (CC)</li> <li>- If CC is cut (b/c of rare epilepsy, seizures) =&gt;How are Perceptual &amp; Intellectual skills affected?</li> </ul>
<b>Methods of study:</b> How did the psychologists conduct their research?	<p><b>3 Cognitive Capability Tests</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Visual</li> <li>2) Tactile/touch</li> <li>3) Auditory</li> </ol>
<b>Study results and significance:</b>	<p><b>Visual:</b> Horizontal row of lights; look at middle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SAID saw lights on right side; no lights on left! But able to point to ALL!</li> <li>- To SAY you saw something, it must be seen by the LEFT side of brain!</li> </ul> <p><b>Tactile:</b> Object in right hand, able to name and describe uses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Object in left hand, could not name or describe, BUT KNEW what the object was by matching it w/objects presented to them</li> </ul> <p><b>Auditory:</b> Verbal response needed, right hemisphere unable to speak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visual tasks involving spatial relationships and shapes = performed w/greater proficiency by Left Hand</li> <li>- Emotional reactions to nude picture: Left = laughed and identified; Right = said she saw nothing but had a sly smile on her face!</li> </ul>
<b>HE ART HEART</b>	
<b>Criticisms:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rarely disputed</li> <li>- Main criticism: how media and pop culture = “right/left brained” myth</li> </ul>
<b>Subsequent research / Recent applications:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jarre Levy, psychobiologist @ Univ. Chicago = Brain fcns as single, integrated structure</li> <li>- French researchers (1998), rare brain malformation of children born w/out CC demonstrated info transmitted b/w brain hemispheres</li> <li>- Idea that two hemispheres may have separate, yet distinct consciousnesses (Morin, 2001)</li> <li>- Applied to psychological disorders? (Schiffer, 1996)</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Reaction:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interesting to read and challenge my notions of being more “right-brained”</li> <li>- Amazed at the complexity of our existence and what makes our brains tick!</li> </ul>