The Incongruent Self

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Part 2
Integration in Right-Parietal Lobe

- somatosensory
- visual
- auditory
- motor
Right Parietal Lobe Damage

- Loss of awareness of his/her own body and limbs and their positioning in space
- Denial of deficit
- Disruption of experience
Supernumerary

• Phantom limb

Disownership

• Somatoparaphrenia
• BIID

Positive and Negative Effects
Bilateral Representation?

The hypothesis that the **right parietal lobe** contains a representation of both the left AND right body.
Somatoparaphrenia

Refusal to believe that their limb belongs to them

Dis-ownership of body on contralateral side of lesion
'Look at it!' he cried, with revulsion on his face. 'Have you ever seen such a creepy, horrible thing? I thought a cadaver was just dead. But this is uncanny! And somehow - it’s ghastly - it seems stuck to me!' He seized it with both hands, with extraordinary violence, and tried to tear it off his body, and, failing, punched it in an access of rage. 'Easy!' I said. 'Be calm! Take it easy! I wouldn’t punch that leg like that.'

'And why not?' he asked, irritably, belligerently. 'Because it’s your leg,' I answered. 'Don’t you know your own leg?' He gazed at me with a look compounded of stupefaction, incredulity, terror and amusement, not unmixed with a jocular sort of suspicion, 'Ah Doc!' he said. 'You’re fooling me! You’re in cahoots with that nurse - you shouldn’t kid patients like this!' 'I’m not kidding,' I said. 'That’s your own leg.' He saw from my face that I was perfectly serious - and a look of utter terror came over him. 'You say it’s my leg, Doc? Wouldn’t you say that a man should know his own leg?'
Somatoparaphrenia: a body delusion.  
A review of the neuropsychological literature

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Abstract  A review of published brain-damaged patients showing delusional beliefs concerning the contralesional side of the body (somatoparaphrenia) is presented. Somatoparaphrenia has been reported, with a few exceptions, in right-brain-damaged patients, with motor and somatosensory deficits, and the syndrome of unilateral spatial neglect. Somatoparaphrenia, most often characterized by a delusion of disownership of left-sided body parts, may however occur without associated anosognosia for motor deficits, and personal neglect. Also somatosensory deficits may not be a core pathological mechanism of somatoparaphrenia, and visual field disorders may be absent. Deficits of proprioception, however, may play a relevant role. Somatoparaphrenia is often brought about by extensive right-sided lesions, but patients with posterior (parietal-temporal), and insular damage are on record, as well as a few patients with subcortical lesions. Possible pathological factors include a

Between the end of May and the beginning of June 1669, “generosus dominus” Johannes Jakobus Schenck de Stauffenberg, who was going to leave for the fortress of Horn, suddenly fell down, hit by left hemiplegia and aphasis. Once revived, he spoke again, and his only complaint was that he referred that he had lost his left arm, and, when a servant came close to him, he grabbed firmly his (i.e., the servant’s) arm, and stated that it was his own arm, and, in order to prevent that it were taken away from him, he held it tight. (Case 169 Hemiplegia; Wepfer 1727)

Introduction

In 1942, the neurologist Josef Gerstmann (see a biographical note in Triarhou 2008) reported the cases of two right-
Hemispatial Neglect

Left side of sensory space becomes non-existent

Allocentric

Egocentric
Allocentric vs. Egocentric:

- Allo-centric: Object-to-object
- Egocentric: Self-to-object
Anosognosia

Unawareness of deficit
denial of deficit
confabulation

E: How is your left arm?
P: Very well.
E: In what sense?
P: Ninety-five per cent.
E: Does it move?
P: It moves depending on the teacher.
E: Could you clap your hands?
P: [raises her right arm]: Where has it gone? I must go and look for it [presumably referring to her left hand]. It must come back by itself.
E: Where is the left hand?
P: I do not know. I think that it has gone for a walk.
E: Has it gone by itself, detached from your body?
P: Yes.
E: At this very moment is your left hand away from you?
P: Yes.
E: Try and look towards the left.
[P looks to her left and sees her left hand.]
E: Is your left hand away?
P: Now it has come back.
E: Does it move now?
P: It is too far away to give an answer.
Confabulation

information at damage site not transferred via corpus callosum

The Way Your Brain Is Organised

left brain is clueless to the defect
Joseph Jules François Félix Babinski

French Neurologist

Coined the term in 1914

Greek: "nosos" disease and "gnosis" knowledge
Apotemnophila or BIID
(Body Integrity Identity Disorder)

overwhelming desire to amputate one or more healthy limbs

majority of cases it is the left limb
“Your body is not just a vehicle for your brain to cruise around in. The relationship is perfectly reciprocal: Your body and your brain exist for each other. … Meaning is rooted in agency (the ability to act and choose), and agency depends on embodiment.”

Sandra Blakeslee and Matthew Blakeslee – The Body Has a Mind of It’s Own
MOVEMENT-PRODUCED STIMULATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF VISUALLY GUIDED BEHAVIOR

Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology
1963, Vol. 56, No. 5, 872-876
Human brain holds and continuously updates an internal map of the body.

Using tendon vibration distort volunteers' brains rapidly adjusted the processing of touch information to match information from proprioception - the position to the limbs relative to the body.
Blindfolded subjects held their left index finger with their right arm.

Vibration was applied to the right arm on the biceps tendon. 

... a subjective elongation of the left index finger.

The triceps vibration induced a subjective flexion of the right arm and, consequently, a subjective shrinking of the left index.
The case of Tom and Philip...

V. Ramachandran

Amputee
Phantom Limb – From "
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mHIv5ToMTM

From NOVA's "Secrets of the Mind"
There is a secondary somatosensory cortex (region S2) (Brodmann Areas 40 and 43)

Area is responsive to light touch, pain, visceral sensation and tactile attention. Very large receptive areas.
Insula and Amygdala

Both are involved in the mediation of emotion and emotional states