

An Editorial!

Psi, Mental Disorders and the Unified Field Theory

By Jonathan C. Jobe

There seems to be a growing body of evidence suggesting that human beings are one of the latest in a long string of experiments by nature in the development of an animal that has optimal survival characteristics. In the history of this planet just about every type of physical development has been tried and either discarded as having low survival potential or was found to be of such quality that it was allowed to survive. The experiment that we call "*homo sapiens*" has as yet not reached its full potential, and it is still in question as to whether or not he will, but is obviously part of an experiment in the development of the brain over all other physical characteristics. Part of the problem is that we were given the ability to think about the past and learn from it (which we don't do often or well), and the ability to think about and plan for the future (which we also don't do often or well), but at this point in our development we are as likely as not to kill ourselves off before we reach a level of development at which we as a species will begin to act responsibly.

The human brain is certainly not the largest among the current inhabitants of this planet. It seems that the whale has the largest brain, with the elephant having the second largest, with the dolphin, the porpoise and man all tied for third. Although our studies of these animals are still on going, at least at this point the human brain does seem to be far more flexible and to have some very unique properties lacking in these other animals (as far as we know at this time). There is ample evidence (so far inconclusive) that the human brain may be an adaptation with many potentialities as yet unrealized. It seems to have the potential toward the ability to conduct direct communication with others (telepathy), the ability to move objects at a distance (telekinesis), the ability to receive impressions at a distance (clairvoyance/telesthesia), the ability to start or control fire at a distance (pyrokinesis), and many other talents. All of these possible abilities fall under the umbrella phrase: Psi Phenomenon, which includes both Extra-Sensory Perception (ESP) and Psycho Kinesis (PK).

However, there are many things that we do know or are learning about the human brain and its abilities beyond the ability to think and plan. The brain appears to be an instrument designed to handle multi-channel input and output, similar in some ways to a multi-tasked computer. It can receive input from the five senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell) and respond to any or all of these inputs simultaneously.

A good example of the brain's multi-channel capabilities might be when you are walking across a carpet and create a static potential, then touch a metal object with your finger and discharge that potential. You will see a small electric current arc between your finger and the metal object (sight); hear a sharp *zap* created by the arc (hearing); have a metallic taste in your mouth because the iron in your blood and cells react (although in a very minute way) to the electrical current (taste); you will feel the current pass along the nerves of your finger, hand and arm (both the nerves which carry the messages for movement from the brain and those that carry pain information to the brain) (touch); and perhaps even smell a faint odor of ozone (O₂) created by the electric arc (smell).

The human brain can also produce output on more than one channel (sound and movement). Using the example of the static charge you just received by touching the metal object after walking across a carpet, there will be an output from the affected limb, and depending on the level of pain created, possibly the entire body may react by being jerked back by either or both involuntary and voluntary muscle contraction to remove the body part from danger and possible damage. There is also frequently an involuntary reaction through the vocal cords of a startled shout or grunt, which is almost certainly originally for the purpose of warning others of a possible danger.

The human brain appears to also be designed to try to protect itself whenever possible. For example, my observations have revealed that in the case of an accident or potential for harm to the brain and body, the first (involuntary) reaction is to protect the head. This probably stems both (primarily) from the fact that the brain is located inside of the head, and (almost certainly of secondary importance) the organs that control four of the five senses are located exclusively in the head (sight, hearing, taste and smell). The order of involuntary protection seems to be first, the head itself (as the carrying case containing the brain), then, in descending order, the eyes (sight), ears (hearing), mouth (taste) and nose (smell).

My life-long vocation as a people watcher has also suggested to me that we humans have other channels into and out of the brain that are less obvious, but potentially more useful than the five we usually think about. These "other" channels are often referred to as the "sixth sense" or as ESP, as I discussed briefly earlier. It is possible that through the maturation process we lose some or all of these other "channels" of information that we had access to as children. Among the cited examples of (supposedly) actual instances of ESP, most seem to involve children at the age of puberty. Then, in order of occurrence, children below the age of puberty, young adults, middle-aged adults, and finally elder adults seem to have the lowest percentage of occurrences.

It seems likely that the brain may be designed to protect itself in terms of these "other" input and output paths. Children seem far more open to receiving input (and possibly to sending) in a whole host of areas and on a much wider spectrum than are adults. Why is this? Plainly, adults have gone through an acculturation process as they age and mature to selectively "tune out" some of the additional input being received. We are told, "don't pretend" and given other such warnings, even punished when we say we see something or someone that an adult may not see. But what and/or who are "pretend

friends" and other such "imaginary" things seen only by children? Are these things that we too could see or sense as children, but which we have been taught to selectively stop seeing as we get older? Is part of the normal maturation process also a process of blocking out and selectively filtering the input we receive so that we are more in touch with the "adult" world? Possibly.

One area in which the brains of adults may still be open to paranormal interactions is in the area of dreams. Although this is a much studied, discussed and cussed area, to this day very little is known about dreams, such as: What are dreams? Why do dreams occur? How much control do we have over dreams? Why do some people seem to dream in black and white while others dream in color? Why do some people report that they dream every night while others report that they never dream? Many believe that dreams are nothing more than a replaying of collected data in a form that the brain can make sense of, or possibly a free-hand attempt by the brain to analyze and integrate previous input in a useable form. Others believe that dreams are nothing more than data that was stored incorrectly within the brain, causing the brain to "take out" this data and try to re-store the data in a useable form, much like the way that a computer has the capacity to "de-frag" its hard drive. There may be some validity to these theories, but they cannot explain all of the things that people report from their dreams.

There seems to be a large and growing body of evidence that some dreams are as a result of an additional (extra sensory) input the brain is receiving while in a REM (rapid eye movement) state of sleep, a time when the brain may be more susceptible to such input. What kind of input might this be? It might well be that in this relaxed state, with all of its "grafted on" barriers, filters and shields relaxed, the brain of even a normally very resistant person may be susceptible to telepathic inputs of many kinds. But, since the brain either does not receive this input normally, or because when it does receive this input it fails to properly synthesize the data into coherent information, when the data is received in the form of a dream the data may seem unreal or bizarre.

Along the same lines as receiving extra sensory data in the form of dreams, is another, related topic: If in fact people are able to send and receive such information mentally, what is the likelihood that some people are able to receive only or broadcast only? Are some people like big radios that are constantly sending out messages, either positive or negative, to others? Are some people like big radio wave collection dishes, receiving messages from other people all of the time? If you concede the likelihood of mental telepathy, then these concepts must also be conceded as likely. And along with this is an additional topic of bandwidth (multiple information streams of different types being broadcast and/or received). What is the likelihood that some people are able to send and/or receive either on a single bandwidth or able to connect wide-band with others? Also, when and under what conditions might such broadcasts and/or receptions occur? Does this occur sometimes, most times, all the time, or never, and for whom? This is research that probably should be conducted, and the sooner the better so that we may better understand who and what we are.

Although many areas of the mind and mental functioning are currently under investigation, there are still many areas that are as yet untouched. Among these areas is the area of possible interaction between diagnosable mental dysfunctions and telepathy. One possible avenue that might be fruitful is the proposition that much of what we currently diagnose as psychoses (for example, schizophrenia) may in fact be the result of an inability of the patient's brain to block out or filter some of this "extra" input as discussed above. Whether these inability are due to a physical injury of some kind to the brain, the result of illness, or because of some type of psychological trauma, the barriers to psychic input are either not erected during normal social inculturization or the barriers are broken down after they have been erected, thus opening the person's mind to "spurious" extra sensory input and confusing the person sufficiently for a diagnosis to be given. In such a case the only possible "cure" might be to help the person erect or re-erect those barriers so that the brain is not bathed in unwanted, troubling and/or unusable data.

Another avenue of investigation that might prove fertile is in the area of the relationship between anti-social behaviors and the ability, either consciously or unconsciously, to read the minds and/or emotions of other individuals. This may sound identical to the previously listed topic of diagnosable dysfunctions, but upon closer examination the differences are clear. Diagnosable psychological dysfunctions are actually conditions of psychological difficulties, while anti-social behavior (also now diagnosable according to DSM-IV) occurs when the individual is simply unwilling and/or unable to behave according to societal norms and rules. Instead, an individual either acts out or has an actual antipathy for these societal norms and rules. There has been some discussion within the Counseling/Psychology community (although little empirical evidence is available at this time) to suggest that some of this acting out and antipathy may result from of the offender's ability to "see" or "know" the attitudes and feelings of others within that society. The problem arises because we all have some of the same urges and feelings about society and social norms as those expressed by the sociopath, although we seldom or never actually act out these feelings, or at least not in ways that would bring attention to how we feel.

If the behaviors of those we classify as anti-social are a result of their unobstructed ability to sense feelings and attitudes of others, the behavior then becomes more understandable. If someone grows up listening to their parents and/or other caregivers talking about how everyone must always follow the rules, but hears with their mind that rules are not really important and should never be followed, how would such a person grow up? We have seen what happens with children that are told one thing and then see the same person do the exact opposite. Such a person might decide early in life that all rules and norms are not to be followed, and develop what we call "situational ethics", that is, whatever feels good or seems ok (meaning they probably won't be caught) is what they do. Could you expect someone who was being fed conflicting messages like this to be normal? Would you expect them to be able to fit right into society, or would you expect them to be sociopathic?

So, where exactly do ghosts and other paranormal phenomenon fit into the realm of mental functions and normal abilities? Why do many people, and especially children,

seem to be more open to these phenomenon than do others that, at least on the surface, are nearly identical? Might it be because some individuals have retained the ability to receive additional inputs (whether they understand them or not), and are therefore more likely to encounter such phenomenon? Such people have throughout history been treated as outcasts and shunned (if not actually burned at the stake for heresy or as witches) by the rest of society. Why are they so feared by society? It is probably because anything that is different as perceived as a norm by a culture is automatically feared and seen as a danger.

Such is also the plight of those that are sometimes referred to as "idiot savants". An "idiot savant" is a person that has a generally low Intelligence Quotient (IQ), or so we think, but has a mental ability that is far out of proportion to his or her nominal IQ score. (An average IQ is approximately between 80 and 120. A score above 120 is considered high, and a score of 140 or higher is generally considered to be genius. A score below 80 is considered low, and a score of 60 or less is generally considered to be retarded) An example of this would be the person with an IQ of 40 that is nonetheless able to perform very advanced and complicated mathematical calculations in their head. But such people are often held in awe, and not infrequently feared for demonstrating mental abilities out of the ordinary, even as those that would be classified as either geniuses or idiots are feared for being different.

I suppose one of the very basic questions is: Beyond the obvious functions of the brain, what else can the brain do, or is it capable of doing? The answer to this is a flat: We really don't know. Of all of the bodily organs that have been studied and that have been the subject of extensive research, the brain is still the organ that we know the least about. Of the brain's potential we know almost nothing. Of its normal functions we know a lot, but not nearly what we need to understand if we are to discuss it coherently. For instance, we know a little about what functions are carried out in some areas of the brain, but almost nothing about other areas. We know that for many functions, if there is damage to the area where that function would normally be performed, it is possible for the brain to train another area to pick up and perform the function; for some people; some times. So, it is evident that our understanding of brain function is far from complete.

If ESP really does exist, what part or parts of the brain carry on this function(s)? We have some clues about this, but the bottom line is that we really do not know. Since many scientists do not even admit the possibility of ESP, they certainly will not be concerned about what portions of the brain might conduct such functions. But if ESP does not exist, what is the explanation of so many phenomenon reported and recorded around the world by so many people? If ESP does exist how does it take place? In many instances when such phenomena have been researched under laboratory conditions, using stringent scientific methods, the phenomena have been demonstrated to occur. In the experiments involving telekinesis (remember, this is supposed to be the ability to move something with your mind only) if some object is caused to move there does not seem to be any physical or chemical interaction that can be detected as causing the movement. But how can this be? If an object moves, something has to make it move, doesn't it? What then makes the object move?

A possible answer to this riddle might be found through a discussion of a Unified Field Theory (UFT). But what is a UFT? A UFT is a theory that takes into account all of the current theories of how and why our world and the universe operate, and not only combines them, but also connects them all together in a logical way. In a "hard" science world and scientific community, a community whose majority believes only in what can be seen and touched, and is totally empirical in its view of the universe, such a theory cannot exist. Why? In such a world the "soft" sciences, such as psychology, psychiatry and the like, are not necessarily empirical in the same ways. Anything proven by a "soft science" is, of course, to be taken with a grain of salt, not really believed because there is not any empirical evidence to "prove" it is true.

The flaw with the logic being used by the "hard" sciences and scientists is that since their theories do not explain the universe and its workings in a finite way, obviously they do not have all of the answers either. The real bugaboo for many members of the "hard" science community is that they see themselves as the gatekeepers. There is no truth or fact except what comes from and through them. And, any idea or theory that in any way contradicts their view of the world is a horrible lie and must immediately be crushed by any and all means. These are the same types of gatekeepers that throughout history have attacked anyone that proposed who the world might not, after all, be flat. The same ones who attempted to destroy anyone who dared to propose that the species might have come about through selection rather than fully formed from the brow of God. Such self-appointed gatekeepers have been with us from the beginning of time, and will be around until man no longer exists.

In a workable hyper-dimensional UFT there must be a relationship between mass and energy in or on a plane or along an axis other than those that are generally understood. Currently we think we understand that the universe operates in at least four (4) dimensions: 1) length, 2) width, 3) height, 4) duration or time. A workable UFT would almost have to propose and demonstrate a fifth dimension that allows interactions interaction between Physics and Chemistry, between mass and energy, between space and time. Such a fifth dimension is, at present, pretty much un-provable by science and therefore must be taken at face value, if at all.

How, for example, would UFOs fit into the scheme of a UFT and paranormal phenomena? Most paranormal phenomena are thought to be simple extensions of the mental abilities of individuals through the hypothetical fifth dimension, while UFOs are generally believed (for those who believe in them at all) to be more concrete and physical manifestations. But UFOs are also phenomena that we know little about, and which we therefore fear. The possible connection between UFOs and a UFT might be the origin and mode of transportation used by such visitations. If, as projected above, there is in fact a fifth dimension apart from and differently affected by the physical laws, as we understand them at present, then it is possible to speculate that a race and/or civilization advanced enough might avail themselves of this dimension for purposes of transportation.

Considering the size of the universe (seemingly infinite by our way of thinking at present) and the distances between stars, it is likely that there are no species or

civilizations near us out here in the remote reaches we currently inhabit. Even considering the smaller size of our galaxy, and the possibility of other sentient races being located in this same galaxy, they would still be far enough from us that the time required to travel back and forth between them and us (at least in terms of what we know right now) would be prohibitive. However, if a fifth dimension such as proposed here and elsewhere is a reality, it is likely that such travel would be along an axis not currently known or understood by our science. Such travel could be made in not only an acceptable amount of time, but also in a relatively safer manner than would be the case of traveling through normal space as we understand it.

So, how does the possible existence of a UFT relate to ESP? A fifth dimension, if accepted as a medium through which such events as nearly timeless travel across nearly infinite distances may take place in an acceptable manner, is also a medium in which some, many or all of the phenomena collectively known as ESP may also operate. If it can be postulated that there is a fifth dimension where mass and energy are the fundamental quantities of physical reality, in which even the speed of light is only another non-constant entity to be taken into account within equations, then it can be postulated that the affects that we call ESP and PK are also able to have an effect on nominal mass and energy and time via this medium.

In conclusion the human mind is an instrument about which we know far less than we need to know if we are to postulate what it is and is not capable of doing. It is a great leap of faith to postulate both the existence and some of the properties of a fifth dimension, and the existence and some of the properties of Psi phenomena, but given both of these as within the realm of possibility, it is also possible to explain how one might operate within the other. If the human mind is designed and capable of reaching not only into but through such a fifth dimension, through the study of the human mind we might also learn much about this fifth dimension, and thereby possibly learn how to utilize this fifth dimension to our own use. It is in this manner that a Unified Field Theory could eventually be proven as a valid scientific representation of reality or ultimately disproved as wishful thinking.

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