

Re: Religion center in the brain

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.cognitive/2006-09/msg00009.html>

- *From:* Kali <kali@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 8 Sep 2006 20:00:44 -0500
-

In <1157752504.963352.179650@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Matt Menge mspmenge@xxxxxxxxxx said:

:

: Glen M. Sizemore wrote:

: > <jalegris@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

: > news:1157554167.358836.35350@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

: > > Glen M. Sizemore wrote:

: > > "Francis Burton" <fburton@xxxxxxx> wrote in message

: > > news:1156956110.585369@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

: > > > In article <4llptF2eggvU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,

: > > > Joachim Pimiskern <JoachimPimiskern@xxxxxxx> wrote:

: > > > > A newer article cast doubt on the discovery:

: > > > > <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/5296728.stm?lsf>

: > > > >

: > > > > Oh dear, just because more than one spot lights up there isn't

: > > > > a "centre"?! Can someone name =any= brain function or activity

: > > > > that is localized to a single spot? To my mind, it doesn't make

: > > > > sense to talk about centres for this or that function until we

: > > > > at least define what we mean by "centre" in this context.

: > > >

: > > > You're right. All this talk about centers is a bunch of horsecrap. It

: > > > fits

: > > > in nicely with animism, though, and mainstream psychology, and the fields

: > > > it

: > > > has corrupted, is just a "modern" form of animism.

: > > >

: > > >

: > > >

: > > > You're seeing the crap before the horse. Modern neurology got its start

: > > > from the apparent connections between specific brain injuries and

: > > > associated behavioural changes. Some were borne out, others were not.

: > > > So it goes, and now we sharpen the focus.

: >

: > But in the final analysis, correlations between brain loci and observed

: > deficits etc. don't explain how neurophysiology mediates behavioral

: > function. But it seems that it does to a number of people. Neuroimaging has,

: > for many, become a sort of endpoint. I suggest that this is because their

: > conceptualization is now, and has always been, a thinly-disguised animism.

: > They already talk as if indwelling entities – call them homunculi – see

Re: Religion center in the brain

: > copies of the world, make decisions on that basis, and pull the levers that
: > make behavior occur. And now they think they know where the little men are
: > hiding in the brain.

This strikes me as woefully out of touch.

: Haven't we analyzed the process of visual perception to the point where
: even different aspects of it have been localized to certain regions of
: the brain, kind of run in a parallel processing fashion?

:

: Best Regards,

:

: Matt

Yes, although the system is less parallel than dynamic. I wonder
who "they" (these referenced animists) are.

Kali

--

There are in fact two things, science and opinion; the former
begets knowledge, the latter ignorance.

Hippocrates (c460–c.377 BCE) Greek physician. Law

.