

#17 Who are you?

**Things to look for**

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

- 1) Discuss the neural substrate of the self. Does the self have a specific home in the brain?
- 2) Discuss dissociative disorders. Is multiple personality disorder a real disorder or a pop-psych creation?

The self is a continuous, reasonably consistent psychological entity

The self is the fragile pawn of powerful environmental forces.

The self as a self-aware organism. (Who or what is feeling sleepy if you feel sleepy?)

**The neuropsychology of the self**

Does the self have a specific neural locus?

FIRST TRY: Right Parietal (neglect) and Left Parietal (Gerstmann's syndrome)

The phantom limb phenom:

Ramachandran, V. S., & Blakeslee, S. (1998). Phantoms in the Brain. NY, William Morrow

SECOND TRY: Pick's disease and the self as a bundle of personality attributes.

THIRD TRY: The self as memory. HM and KC revisited

**Psychopathology of the self**

What is a **Psychopathology**?

Dissociative disorders (see Gleitman 796-799)

psychogenic amnesia

fugue state

multiple personality disorder (MPD) – rebellion in the kingdom of the self

Is MPD for real?

Can you fake MPD?

Spanos, N. P. (1996). *Multiple Identities and False Memories : A Sociocognitive Perspective*. Washington, DC: APA.

Why is MPD more common than it used to be?

Possibility 1: It is an artifact of a patient-therapist relationship?

Possibility 2: The mind chooses how to crack up?

Ross, C. A. (1989). Multiple personality disorder : diagnosis, clinical features, and treatment. New York: Wiley.

Dissociation went away because Freud said so.