A HUMAN CEREBRAL DISCONNECTION SYNDROME: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

Norman Geschwind, MD and Edith Kaplan, MA

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We propose in this paper to present a patient whose clinical picture appears to us to be most simply explainable by a partial disconnection of the two cerebral hemispheres. He appears to behave as if there were 2 nearly isolated half-brains, functioning almost independently. In the early years of this century several cases were described which showed some of the phenomena that are present in our patient. Sittig¹ reviews these cases in his monograph on apraxia. The earlier workers generally described these cases as showing apraxia and apractic agraphia of the left side and leftsided astereognosis and attributed these findings to lesions of the corpus callosum.

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Comment from David S. Knopman, MD, FAAN, Deputy Editor: Norman Geschwind was a major force in the development of behavioral neurology as a field. This is his first paper on a topic in behavioral neurology, which anticipated a pair of long articles he published on human disconnection syndromes in *Brain* 3 years later. Those latter articles are considered by many to represent the founding moment of behavioral neurology in the US.

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