

LEFTHANDED RIGHTHANDED



child - teenager - adult

WELL LIVED LATERALITY

PRESS ARTICLES

Are you a true left-hander? Are you a true right-hander?

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by Philippine ROLLET*

Following her presentation on her experience as a corrected left-hander, Joëlle Morice Mugnier, a psychopractitioner and individual member of the FF2P, addressed questions concerning laterality:

Who is truly left-sided? Who is truly right-sided?

Inviting the audience to take part actively, the psychopractitioner showed that the answer is not that simple and that a set of factors come into play: the eye, the hand, the foot. Going back to the origins of writing, and comparing the various civilisations, Mrs Morice Mugnier indicated that beliefs had always acknowledge the right hand as the correct one, neglecting, and indeed punishing left-handers.

She also demonstrated the difficulty for left-handers to write from left to right, i.e. in the direction counter to their opening direction (from right to left), as well as the freedom some of them find in mirror writing, in their opening direction.

Left-handers struggle gradually less with using their left hand, but still have issues with writing as the norm remains that everyone is expected to write from left to right.

And whereas right-handers follow the conventional direction, that is, from left (past) to right (future), left-handers have the feeling of going back to the past. Today, the challenge is to transition from being a struggling to a rehabilitated left-hander to then become a left-handed person functioning in their opening direction. In other words, one must “re-establish one’s left-handedness”. This is how self-confidence and the ability to make decisions can be restored.

We are most grateful to Mrs Morice Mugnier for her wonderful talk illustrated with conclusive demonstrations.