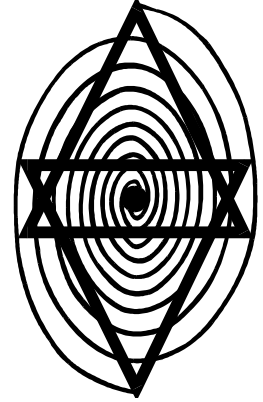


JOURNEY TO THE ONE – The *Beyond* Series

Morphogenesis – by Bill Kilborn

Original 1997 – Rewritten 2005



Morphogenesis (*changing* and *beginning*) is a relatively new concept among the scientific and spiritual communities of the world. It has been given prominence by Rupert Sheldrake, Ph. D., a former Research Fellow of the Royal Society, a Frank Knox Fellow at Harvard, and former Director of Studies of Biochemistry and Cell Biology at Cambridge University. He's a leading scientist in the field of biology. His work with Morphogenesis is stirring up scientific controversy all over the world.

Sheldrake's theories about Morphic Fields come closer to explaining Magick than anything else we've come across in a long time. More about that near the end of this lesson.

Memory In Nature

There is a kind of memory in nature. Every kind of thing has a collective memory. Every species of tree has its own memory and trees, as a whole, have a memory that's applicable to all trees. The human race also has a collective memory. We'll look later at what Dr. Carl Jung had to say about this.

Example: An Anhinga (sometimes called snake bird) in Florida dries its wings by spreading them out in the sun for a period of time, just as the Anhinga in another part of the world does. Why? Other birds don't do this!

The Yoruba believe in Ashé, their term for the primal spirit force of the universe. The religious belief of *Animinism* places spirit force in everything. All of creation may actually be viewed as a living organism, just broken down into smaller and smaller parts until we reach the atomic level itself. Who knows how much smaller things really go, we just haven't even reached a complete understanding of the atomic level yet. Much more about this later.

First Introduction To Morphic Fields And Morphic Resonance

Morphic: Having a specified shape or form, To *morph* means to change.

Field: The space in which a given force operates, as in *electro-magnetic field*. Physicists now talk about the Zero Point Field (ZPF), the space between particles such as electrons, photons, etc. This was previously thought to consist of absolutely nothing, now – well, not sure what yet – but there is something there!

Resonance: The property of a system enabling it to be sympathetic to or pick up some quality of another system.

We spoke about Morphic Fields above as a kind of memory, and it is. Let's go a little bit further. There are invisible fields around every organism in nature, right down to cells, molecules and atoms. You, as a human being, have your own personal field. Each organ within your body has a field, your heart has a field, your liver has a field, etc. Every one of the thirty trillion living cells in your body has a field. Every molecule and right on down to every atom within your body has a field surrounding it. Back up the ladder: There's a field around your family and close circle of friends. We've all had the experience at one time or another where that very special person, friend or relative knows when something happens to us, even when something is about to happen! There's a field around like thinking groups. There's a field around the entire human race. It just goes on and on and on. There are fields within fields within fields going on infinitely.

The great Albert Einstein theorized gravitational, and other, fields pervading all time and space (now known as *space-time* a unified thing), actually the Morphic Field of the universe. We discussed this somewhat in the Journey to the One lesson on *Life Effectiveness*.

A Morphic Field is a space with a given shape or form and will hold whatever is put into it. These are the organizing fields of all nature, the form that the Life Force flows into to become manifest in reality. A holistic theory of the 1920's sees all nature as being alive, the same time period when some biologists started thinking about the possibility of Morphic Fields in nature.

Morphic Resonance is the act of being sympathetic to the contents of a Morphic Field. Remember, Morphic Fields are a memory of nature, so Morphic Resonance is a picking up of that memory, resonating with it and acting upon it. This does not rigidly enforce a formation of something, but the likelihood is increased. There are way too many chaotic processes in nature for Morphic Fields and Morphic Resonance to be absolutely rigid. Think about it this way: We put something into a Morphic Field, on purpose or inadvertently, and we, or someone else, comes along later and retrieves it. We tune ourselves to this specific Morphic Field and we Resonate with it. This, in a nutshell, is the basic principle, sometimes called formative causation.

It was once thought that Morphic Fields only seem to apply to self organizing systems such as living organisms. Machines made by human hands were not thought to have this property. More recent research has shown that there can be interaction between man and machine. It has been proven that people can influence the action of machines such as that a certain operator can cause a machine to break down more often than other operators. Strange but true!

Look at the fact that some plants cut up into pieces will rejuvenate themselves under the proper conditions. A flatworm cut in pieces will form into as many flatworms as there are pieces. Some species of lizards can re-grow tails and limbs. You can't chop a computer into pieces and have it turn itself into a bunch of little computers, although some of our high tech companies are probably working on it ! !

Interesting enough is that more advanced organisms, such as human beings, do not have this rejuvenation property. This is true even though every part of a human being, down to the cellular structure, have the DNA that contains the information to do this. Just something so wonder about.

Take a look at flocks of birds that turn at the same time. You know that they turn way too simultaneously to be following the leader or one another. Schools of fish do the same. What tells them to turn? A Morphic Field surrounding the entire flock would explain this!

What tells one point of a snowflake to be just exactly like another point of the same snowflake, yet unlike any other snowflake in the world? Each snowflake has a Morphic Field within the Morphic Field of the entire world's collection of snowflakes! Quite a memory, huh!

All types of organizations and societies have Morphic Fields. Why do some societies follow their leaders to absolute ruin or even death? Look at Adolph Hitler and his followers, how about Jim Jones and his loyal associates with their suicide pact? These fields are invisible patterns that surround all living organisms or groups of living organisms. Any single part of the group can tap not only into its own field but into the larger collective field surrounding them all.

Where do animals and humans get instincts from? The entire human race or a species of animal has built all of its cumulative memories into a Morphic Field and keeps doing it. The memories of this field know what needs to be done in the face of danger or any situation it's faced with. If we allow it, instinct will take over and help. Animals have it more than we simply because they trust it more. We've grown too "sophisticated," actually unlearned many of the marvelous capabilities we were born with, to believe all our instincts, although they are still there and can be tapped into when the need arises.

Intuition is a similar situation. It comes to us through the subconscious mind that is a part of the Morphic Field of the human race connected to the superconscious mind of the entire universe and probably beyond. The Morphic Field of the human race is the memory or intelligence of everyone in the world who ever lived before us or still living today (maybe even from the future). With that data bank to draw from, the answer has to be in there somewhere. We only have to believe we can tap into this and we can. There is no problem or situation that hasn't happened before and there's an answer on how to handle it in the great cosmic data bank!

These connections are throughout space and time, which doesn't really exist anyway in the overall picture of the universe. See the example of Bluetits (that's referring to birds not Smurph porno) further on in our discussion where we look at more examples of Morphic Fields.

More On Memory

Certain general principles seem to operate throughout the whole of nature, indicating a Morphic Field for all. All nature is as alive as we are, all containing the principles of memory and habit. Habit is very important, keep it in mind; more on that soon. There is a cumulative memory, a habit memory, that pervades all nature, built up from experience.

What is memory? No one really knows! Memory is an unsolved problem of science. No one has ever seen an actual trace in the brain as some theories say. Many have looked! Some scientists have placed electrodes in certain areas of the brain and brought back memories but electrodes on the exact same part of brain sometimes will produce different memories! These memories can't be just a trace in the brain or the exact same location would produce the exact same memories every time.

A theory I like is that the brain may be just an antenna for memories contained within the individual Morphic Fields, just a tuning system. Each person has their own Morphic Field, dating from sometime between conception and birth, which would explain some memories from our pre-birth life in the womb affecting our present lives. This would explain past life memories since our personal Morphic Field, being a form of universal energy, would not die with the body but hang around waiting for another body to be born into and accumulate more life experiences. It also would explain the instinct of a species.

It is now theorized that the fluid in the brain that carries the chemical and electrical impulses between cells is constantly vibrating at different frequencies and resonates with its related part of the Morphic Field (Morphic Resonance).

Nobody knows exactly how mind is related to body. We know it is and we know the body heals itself with the aid of mind. We also know that we can direct our life activities and their outcome by proper use of the mind. We'll discuss this in a bit more depth later in this lesson. There's also an entire lesson in the Journey to the One devoted towards living an effective and fulfilled life by proper use of the mind called *Life Effectiveness, the Welfare of Humanity*.

Habit

A very important part of our study in Morphic Fields is to understand that they are mostly fields of habit. The culture we live in is based on habit and most all our personal life is habit. We probably don't want to hear this, as us independent and somewhat unconstrained types tend to think that we don't have to conform to habit, but we still do. We are at the mercy of our personal Morphic Field, whether we like it or not, but we can learn to use that to our advantage.

The principle of habit is based on established patterns of activity. The more often they're repeated, the more unconscious they become and the more probable to be repeated again. Most of our conscious behavior is determined by unconscious habits of thought, speech and activity. Really think about this and I think you will agree.

The Laws Of Nature

What we call the "laws" of nature are only habit or instinct just as all other types of Morphic fields, they're not always constant. They're not always the immutable principles or paradigms science attributes to them. Every *law* of nature is constantly evolving, just as the laws of human existence. We don't live according to the same natural laws as we did thousands of years ago. Nature doesn't react to the same laws as it did millions or billions of years ago. Same thing applies to the future, us or nature!

For example: the speed of light, orbits of planets, etc. Was the speed of light, so many times used as the *measuring stick* of the universe, the same just after the big bang or however else the universe came to be? Is it the same in a black hole where light cannot escape? Is it coming out the other side, becoming a *white hole* into another universe? What happens when something reaches the speed of light? According to Einstein time stops, matter disappears. What the - - -!! . So when light slows down or stops, does matter appear? It seems to! Most scientists now agree that the speed of light is not a constant, so there goes one of our big *measuring sticks* right out the proverbial window. There's even theorized to be a particle, point of energy, whatever, called a tachyon that travels faster than the speed of light. In fact the slowest it can travel is the speed of light and the more energy it loses the faster it goes! No one has actually found one yet the theory says it is there.

And what is time? Physics says there is no such thing as just time. Space and time are so intertwined they are one thing. The fabric of the universe is *Space-Time* and everything exists in it including *all* time, past, present and future. Chew on that idea for awhile.....

Maybe we should call the so called *laws of nature* the *habits of nature* instead! Habits are things that change and evolve. Laws change every time the scientists redefine them, so they're really not *laws*, they're *habits*. How about the well-known *law* of physics: "The total amount of energy, matter, and momentum before a given

change equals the amount afterwards." Life does not seem to work this way, unless you apply the mechanist perspective of the 16th century (which, unfortunately, some of our scientists still do) so that's really not a *law* either. If all things forever remained in the constant grooves of habit, called *law*, nothing would ever change or evolve. More about evolution in a few pages.

The Hundredth Monkey Principle

This example of a Morphic Field is from Ken Keyes' 1982 book *The Hundredth Monkey*:

"There is a certain species of monkey that lives on two different islands. The two groups of monkeys that live on the two islands are just alike, the same species, the same basic environments, and hence, the same basic lifestyles, but the two islands are far apart, and the monkeys don't swim, so there is never any contact between the two groups. One day, on the first island, one of the monkeys somehow makes a discovery that by taking a piece of fruit, which is their main food, down to the water and so by soaking it, becomes much easier to peel. This is a wonderful discovery, a real breakthrough. Soon, the other monkeys on the island begin to catch on, and learn this helpful new technique. Now, although this species of monkey may have lived for generation upon generation on these two islands without making this discovery, now that it has been done, by the time the hundredth monkey on the first island has learned it, there will be monkeys doing it on the second island as well."

"When a certain critical number achieves an awareness, this new awareness may be communicated directly mind to mind. There is a point at which, if only one more person tunes into a new awareness, the field is strengthened so that this awareness is picked up by almost everyone"

Whether or not the above story about the monkeys is actually true, the theory has been borne out. Fundamental change can be catalyzed by a small proportion of people, a 51% majority is not needed.

An actual example of this taking place in nature is that a small temperature change in a certain part of the ocean can cause the formation of a hurricane. No major changes are needed and certainly not by the majority. Even one person working alone can, with the proper passion and will, make a significant change in a Morphic Field. Group mind and the heart of humanity are not limited by time and space. We can accomplish anything we desire if we want it with enough will and give it enough of our power. We're getting into Magick here — more about that later on.

The Beginning And Continuance Of Life

What organizes the absolute beginning of a human life form, the fertilization and growth of the human baby? What guides the sperm to the egg with unwavering energy? Aren't these the same things that guide the Sea Turtle to the exact right part of the beach to lay her eggs? The Morphic Fields of our species guides us in everything we do whether we know it or not. The continuation of the species is paramount in all species.

When this fertilization successfully takes place in the human species the single celled embryo starts its work splitting millions of times eventually becoming a fetus and finally a human baby. In the first few weeks the embryo goes through several stages looking exactly like the embryos of our ancestors from many millions of years ago, probably right from the first one that crawled out of the ocean. Memory from that far back, memory from that multitude of generations is being tapped into by that brand new embryo.

When does the human spark of life actually vitalize the embryo or fetus, bringing with it a Morphic Field from several past lives and their myriad of experiences. We don't know, nobody does, and we're certainly not going to get in that discussion, but it does happen somewhere along the way to becoming a full fledged baby. It must happen sometime before birth because womb experiences can be remembered with deep regression later in life.

Some think this is all caused by that mysterious and magnificent stuff called DNA. I'm sure everything works in intimate cooperation with each other but DNA alone just couldn't do this monumental assignment. The DNA is slightly different for a brain cell as for a liver cell. They both do completely different jobs but have some capability of regeneration just as all cells do. At just what stage do those two original cells start splitting off and forming individual parts of the body. How does a cell know how to duplicate itself to build an arm or a leg when it started out as a more generalized cell, now called a stem cell? Is all the DNA for every different organ in the body

present in the sperm or egg or in the resulting embryo that is the result of their joining? Does that DNA contain all the information of many millions of years of evolution to have the embryo go through those stages before becoming a human fetus?

We certainly must believe that there is some other organizing power here. You can take your belief from science or religion, but there is an organizing power or energy permeating this entire process guiding it every step of the way. Morphic Fields make more sense all the time!

Compare DNA to the plan for the bricks used to build a house and Morphic Fields to the plan for the entire house. If the bricks are defective (or the wires, beams, etc.) the house will not be sturdy. If the overall plan is defective, no matter how good the building blocks are, the house will be defective. That's why DNA alone can't work, the overall plan must be there. Again, Morphic Fields explain why this could be happening.

The same thing happens in a mighty tree growing from a tiny seed or even a re-growth from a cut piece. There has to be an organizing field of some kind. There's no proof to any of this but it sure would explain a lot!

More Examples Of Morphic Fields

The English language is a good example we can relate to. We speak English without thinking much about it when raised in an English speaking environment. Remember, every self organizing system has Morphic Fields. English speaking people would qualify as one of those systems so the *habit* of speaking English, all the words, phrases and grammar, has become a part of a Morphic Field. Every time we speak we're resonating with that field. When we learn another language later in life, we usually have to think about what we're saying more than when we speak our native language. There are occurrences, of course, of fluency when people live in another language environment for some time and become resonant with that Morphic Field. Every language spoken in the world has its own field, even those classified as *dead languages*. Think of when Egyptian hieroglyphics finally began to be understood. It only took one little key to set up the pattern and break into the Morphic Field of that long dead way of expressing ideas by the written word. Once it got started, things went much faster. Review the Hundredth Monkey theory above. When you reach a certain point, sometimes called the *nexus point*, everything following becomes much easier.

New words work their way into a language, usually starting as *buzz* words being thrown around at a business meeting or cocktail party. It doesn't take long to spread. Once a new word is invented and a few people start using it regularly, the rest of us assimilate it rapidly and also start using it. We can all think of some words in fairly common use today that were never heard at all when we were younger.

I'm writing this on 9/12/97 and just heard on the radio yesterday about a new buzz word being used in business, *incentify*. It seems that you *incentify* your business when incentives are offered for whatever! Past tense, *incentified*. Doing it, *incentification*. (Spell checker's going crazy now!) If you're reading this some time from the above date, are you using or hearing this word with any regularity? Did it make it into the Morphic Field of the English language?

Rewrite Note: Right now, this very day this is being written its 5/29/05 and things have changed since 1997, the first writing of this manuscript. The variations of *incentify* as mentioned above don't seem to be in common use but there are other words that have emerged. *Ramp-up* is one, meaning to bring up to speed. Actually I think that one is pretty silly and don't use it myself but many people who always have to keep up with the habits of the times do.

The field of art is another good example. Renaissance schools, modernist schools, post-modernist schools, etc. start popping up. Others start copying the style till it spreads worldwide. As it is with a lot of new things, people usually don't like it at first, then, when it's been around a while, they assimilate it into their culture and it becomes an everyday thing. Things all around us change constantly!

How about the field around a magnetized bar of iron? This magnetic field is invisible but iron filings placed around it on a piece of glass will organize themselves into the exact pattern of the field. They all respond to the field and if you move the bar, the filings will follow. This is the same principle as the field generated by regulated atoms lining up in the brain during an MRI scan. Quantum Field theory postulates that "fields are the substances of the universe and not matter. Matter (particles) is simply the momentary manifestation of interacting fields which, intangible and insubstantial as they are, are the only real things in the universe." Don't these demonstrations of invisible fields and the quantum field theory tie right into our theory of Morphic Fields? Is there any difference? They are organizing fields. They are invisible but known to exist.

Rewrite Note: Now, in 2005, quantum mechanics are coming more to the forefront in our everyday life. Witness the recent movie *What the Bleep Do We Know* (if you haven't caught that one, do it). Much of what was originally written here (and theorized) in 1997 is being proven beyond a doubt today.

Everything is all one great universal power anyway. The energy regulating the arrangement of an atom is the only thing that determines the difference between lead and gold. It is the same energy that organizes the iron filings around the magnetized bar. It's actually the same thing the atoms are made of too, which, of course, means what we're made of. Now, there's a lofty thought! Everything, even matter, is nothing but some invisible, un-understood energy force permeating the universe. We're made of the same stuff as a rock, even one on some distant planet populated by weird green beings that come in three sexes! And that stuff doesn't even actually exist !! Morphic Fields are organized invisible energy patterns — so are we! Just think about all this for awhile - - -

This would be a good time to review the Journey to the One manuscript on *Life Effectiveness* if you have it.

We discussed earlier about the flock of birds that all turn at the same time. Isn't the Morphic Field of that flock similar to the magnetic field surrounding the bar of iron? The iron filings all move in unison when the bar moves! Human social groups react with similar instincts whether we like to admit it or not. Not in quite as much in unison but the reactions are still there!

Here's one you've been waiting for, the story of the Bluetits (From the writings of Rupert Sheldrake):

"Spontaneous spread of a new habit in animals is the true story of the Bluetits. Bluetits are small birds with blue heads. In 1921, in Southampton, England the Bluetits started drinking from delivered milk bottles (milk was still delivered back then). The milk bottles were topped with a cardboard top, and in 1921 the Bluetits started tearing off the cardboard and drinking the cream off the top. Soon Bluetits all over England started this behavior. This is not so amazing, but what followed was not explained away so easily. This continued to spread into Scandinavia and to Holland. This seems rather exciting that birds could communicate over such vast distances. Yet, the skeptics said that the birds simply flew great distances to share the good news. Yet, later when the Germans occupied Holland the milk delivery stopped until 1948. Bluetits only live about two or three years. But, in 1948 when milk bottle delivery resumed the Bluetits were at it again, with no time to spare. Within a year the behavior had spread throughout Europe again. Also, it spread much faster than the first time. How this spread is a complete mystery, but there is certainly some circumstantial evidence for Morphic Fields here."

Lets look at the crystals that grow from evaporation of a saturated solution. When a solution such as copper sulfate, for example, is crystallized for the first time in a lab, it will take much longer than subsequent tries, even on the other side of the world. Each try gets faster. The memory for the assembly of the crystal is stored in its new Morphic Field and accumulates with repetition. Each future attempt gets easier. There have been a few theories about this such as molecules of the new crystals carried by wind currents around the world or even on the beards of migrant chemists but only the Morphic Field theory really explains it.

When a rat is taught to get through a maze to find something to eat, that same species of rat on the other side of the world can negotiate the same maze the first time faster than the first rat did. In one actual 50 year experiment with many subsequent rats, the learning ability increased tenfold over the entire time span. What else, again, but Morphic Fields.

Morphic Fields Seem To Be Holographic

Just as in a hologram, everything is contained in every part. When the bar of magnetized iron is chopped apart, it still retains its magnetic field. When the flatworm is chopped in pieces, each piece grows to a new flatworm. Many things in nature do this, most trees, plants, etc. are capable of regenerating a new duplicate of themselves when planted under the right conditions and cared for. Back to the discussion of DNA for a moment. How does the DNA contained in the cell of a plant stem know when to stop building the new stem and branch out into roots at the bottom and flowers at the top? Morphic Fields would explain it!

Human beings don't seem to have this type of regenerating power although there are some isolated cases of organs being removed and then the body regenerated a new organ. It's a well-known fact that a field of some sort remains around an amputated limb because phantom pain and other feeling can often be felt for some time

after the amputation. Some people even born without a limb or a deformed limb actually feel that it's all there. Are we, as advanced human beings too highly evolved to believe in the regeneration process so it just doesn't happen? The fields are there just as in the lower evolved animal species or plants.

We mentioned before that human made machines won't regenerate themselves. A computer chopped apart won't regenerate into a bunch of little computers. A Morphic Field must be associated with a self organized system, although certain thought forms also have these fields. Now, thought forms are a fascinating study in themselves. If enough people give an idea enough energy it can actually generate a field that becomes an invisible living organism! There seems to have to be a random factor present, such as the chaos inherent in nature. Machines are not random or they would serve no useful purpose! Can you imagine a randomly organized computer, wouldn't that be fun! A computer must do the same thing every time the same data is put into it. Although sometimes — oh, never mind!

Morphic Fields Must Be Evolutionary

Morphic Resonance gives repetition, but not evolution, not creativity. We can tap into this power and repeat things of the past, but could not change or update them without some means of evolution. We learned that Morphic Fields are formed by habit and we also know that old habits can be changed, but it takes effort or must have some kind of advantage to do so. Since habits are formed and built up by repetition, something must take place to cause evolution or change of habit. It's not really a great mystery how this can happen, evolution is caused by repetition plus creativity, but creativity itself is kind of a mystery.

What is creativity but new ideas, but not every creative idea survives. Only the successful ones get repeated enough to become a habit. This is the principle of natural selection. All nature possesses creativity, it's not limited to the human species. Creativity involves the appearance of new patterns, new forms, new or modified fields.

Look at bicycle riding, very difficult when it first came into being, now every child easily does it. When bicycles first came onto the scene it took quite a while to learn how to ride one, of course part of the problem were the cumbersome machines themselves. But creativity took over, new ideas came into being. Some of the new ideas, such as equal size wheels, were good enough to be repeated over and over till they became a habit in this field. As more and more people took to this new fangled craze, the habit became stronger in the Morphic Field of bicycle riding. We don't have to even try too hard learning to ride a bicycle anymore because we just tap into the Morphic Field and resonate with it when we get on one of the contraptions!

We talked above about the *habits of nature* as related to the, actually non-existent, *laws of nature*. These habits are constantly evolving, although at a much slower pace that we can possibly imagine. Things take millions, even billions of years instead of a few days, months or maybe years. So think about it, they're *laws* to us because they haven't changed within our lifetime, several lifetimes, or maybe even the lifetime of the entire human species, but the fact is they ARE changing!

A spiritual process is also evident in this Cosmic evolution as well as in most material processes. Spiritual process cannot be separated from material process. We'll attack the problem of science vs. religion a bit more soon but for now, just understand the point that they cannot be separated, nor have they ever really been separated.

More Morphic Fields - - - -

We've just looked at how Morphic Fields are formed and continually evolve. Let's look at some other attributes of this fascinating subject.

What happens when someone works at something new in solitude? It still sets up a Morphic Field but the strength of it depends on how many people may be working on the same thing, even without each other's knowledge and with the intensity they're putting into it. Even someone in complete solitude will set up a Morphic Field fairly fast if the work is being done with intense feeling.

Fashion designers usually come up with similar designs at the same time, even in different countries. Fashion shows all over the world introducing new designs bear this out. Some designers are radically different and but it's amazing at how many are so very similar. The phrase *in the air* makes sense now, doesn't it? When something is *in the air* it's forming Morphic Fields and others are experiencing resonance with these fields. Similar work gets done even though we don't realize it at the time!!!

Look at aviation, telephone, phonograph and electrical technology, etc. Many people were working on similar designs at the same time in these areas of expertise, all the designs strikingly similar. There's still controversy in all these technical fields as to who actually did what first. The *firsts* are always attributed to somebody, but there were always others there at just about the same time.

A favorite illustration of my own is one in advertising. Being a small business owner for many years, I have always done my own advertising campaigns and here's an amazing but true fact, advertising starts working before it actually gets out! We had geared one advertising campaign to the legal profession and already contracted for an ad to be placed in the main directory of services used by lawyers in our area. Before the publication reached the market, the phone was ringing with more business from this profession. One point here, this must be real, not just faked, real energy and dollars must be put in and real advertising must follow. We can't just say we're going to do it and expect the magickal results to happen. Sincerity means everything and we must follow through with the actual advertising but, the point is, results will usually start to happen before the advertising is out in the public. Advertisers all over the world can verify this. Morphic Fields are amazing, aren't they? We start one and it goes on and does its business, even before the mundane version of whatever it is makes an appearance!

Morphic Resonance is not absolutely predictable. There is still a lot of chaos in nature. Weather systems are chaotic, absolute predictability has never been accomplished. Fluid motion is another. Can we predict exact wave patterns of the ocean beating on the shoreline with any great accuracy? Of course not! Chaos seems to be a necessary part of nature and Morphic Fields. Chaos does cause changes in Morphic Fields. This is called self evolution as compared to human guided creative evolution. No matter what we do with Morphic Fields, they are not absolutely predictable, but it does increase the probability of an outcome.

Re-Write: Speaking of probability – now, in 2005, quantum mechanics are coming more to the forefront and its now being called the *Science of Probability*. Not even an exact science, somewhat chaotic, with the results determined by probability. Can you imagine if our old standards of Newtonian Physics were based on probability? You could drop a ball off a tall building 10 times and it would only fall straight down 6 times, the remaining 4 times going in different directions, maybe even up! Morphic Fields conform more to the unclear *Science of Probability*, quantum mechanics. Resonating with a Morphic Field does not always give the same results!

Look at repetitive action performed solely in the mind. This is an interesting concept that ties right in with Morphic Fields. Things change when their Morphic Fields change and we can change the Morphic Fields purely by repetitive and intensive mental action. Mental practice has been proven to work, but remember both the words *repetitive* and *intensive*. Repetitive refers to the number of times some particular action is done, the more the better. Intensive refers to the energy we put into it. When we passionately pour our whole being into something, it retains its form, it builds a good solid workable Morphic Field. So, remember again, *repetitive* and *intensive*, both are necessary.

Repetition would have something to do with probability as the more we do an action the more probable it is to add to the Morphic Field.

Experiments have been run with various sporting teams, where one team physically practices over and over some specific action, lets just say for example, basketball free throws. Another team does absolutely nothing and a third team practices in their mind's eye only, but with lots of repetition and passion in it. The results are pretty amazing. The team who physically practiced will, obviously, be very good and have shown great improvement. The team who did nothing will not show improvement. The team who only mentally practiced will do as good, or close to it, as the first team! This is mental building of a Morphic Field — it's been proven to work.

This kind of answers the question of whether we see with out mind or with our eyes. The eyes only gather the light reflections from objects in our line of vision. The brain (and mind) actually does the *seeing*. So – seeing something in the *mind's eye* is as effective in building a Morphic Field as actually visually seeing. Same for repetitive action of the muscles. An impression is made in the mind, then vividly imagining the actions is the same as actually doing it as far as building a field goes.

This same experiment has been undertaken with musicians as well. The piano student, for example, who mentally practices, sees every position of their fingers and hands and hears the music clearly in their mind, will show a great improvement even without going near a piano. It should be obvious that the athlete or musician who both physically and mentally practices will come out on top of everybody, and that always is the case. Aren't Morphic Fields phenomenal?

Science Vs. Religion

Science and religion were split apart in the 17th century. Was this a good idea? It was necessary because of the restrictive stranglehold the church had on the human mind, but the results still haunt us to this day. Here's a separate look at what happened to both science and religion and a summation at why we can't accept this separation in our way of living.

Science

René Descartes declared the viewpoint that placed him among the principal revolutionaries in the 17th century scientific revolution. He asserted the "clear and fundamental idea" that the physical world was sheer mechanism and nothing else. This caused a narrow focus among the scientific community purely to mechanical and material things. Descartes didn't bother to even take into account the already existing theories of planetary movement that, to some extent, disagreed with him and, of course, did not understand gravitational fields at all, which came later. We have displaced his theories with the current ones, but still retain a completely mechanistic view of universal law.

The current paradigm of science is still a mechanistic one. Mechanism is a view of nature that sees the universe and life within it as a machine functioning purely in accordance with mechanical laws.

At that time, science took over the whole of the natural world including the cosmos and eliminated the soul from any of its domain.

Are there really any constants in science, even the speed of light? We already talked about this to some extent and I think all agree that the speed of light is not an absolute constant even with the mechanistic view. Scientists today generally agree that it is theoretically possible to exceed the speed of light. Quantum mechanics tell us that a particle (whatever that may be) can disappear from one place and reappear someplace else instantly. Now, *instantly* is somewhat faster than any fixed speed! The same particle can also be in two places at once! Maybe the Warp drive of Star Trek isn't so far out after all. Science tells us that light cannot escape from a black hole, what speed is it at that point?

Religion

Religion became very introverted when the mechanistic view of science came into being. It restricted itself to human ethical matters, spirit and morality, a very limited dominion! Most mainstream religions usually reject the animistic soul, that is, the possibility of a soul or some kind of "God Power" dwelling at the heart of everything in existence – EVERYTHING!

Back To Science Vs. Religion

Both science and religion have become completely dogmatic since this drastic separation, which needed to occur because of the prohibitive attitude of the church. Great advances in science were made because of this but it also took any concept of unity with our spiritual self out of science and everyday life. Maybe it's time to try to put the two back together somewhat, or at least foster cooperation.

Cosmic evolution contains both material and spiritual process, it can NOT be separated. But, are they really that separate? Science is actually a bit like religion in that, every time a new discovery is made, the laws change. Isn't this like the *Faith* of religion? There simply is no "fact" that cannot be changed due to discoveries or even whims! As opinions and theories change, so do the faiths, facts and truths.

Spirit is change, inspiration, movement and should be looked at as a form, as actual energy. Forms get filled with material. This is what Morphic Fields are all about.

Look at the beliefs of the Native American Indian. The sky is not just a collection of bodies moving in accordance with supposed laws of the universe. The sky is a living thing, an abode of the spirit, often called the Father. The Earth is a living Mother, not just a collection of rocks and dirt. This is what they know as the *Circle of Life*, everything connected, interrelated and interdependent.

Look at the ancient Babylonians. The planet Venus WAS Ishtar, not just some material light in the sky. Others were the Sun (Shamash), Moon (Sin) and Mercury (Nabu). These were completely connected to everything they did in their daily lives, just as the Native American Indian is connected to the sky and the earth.

Most all ancient societies were of this standard of living. There was no difference in science and religion, they were completely interconnected in every way.

We feel that we must return to completely joining our religion with our mundane lives. 300 years of false information concerning our view of nature is hard to change but we're going to try. The general views of science vs. religion are slowly changing. We are experiencing a return to that unified life of the past.

Some of our foremost physicists dealing in quantum mechanics have realized that *All is One*. Whatever we may call God is one with mankind and everything else in the universe. They cannot be separated. Movies like *What The Bleep* (2005) us bringing this point more to life all the time and bringing it to the public.

So how does all this tie to Morphic Fields? Evidence that they exist is being proven by science but not completely explained. For this reason many die-hard mechanistic scientists will never accept the theory and Rupert Sheldrake has undergone a lot of criticism because of his stance. Religion is able to accept the belief that things can be changed by a thought. Now, all we have to do is accept the belief of both, tie them together and, all of sudden, Morphic Fields make sense and explain a lot of things happening in our lives. Most important, it explains a way that we can change the probability of things happening as we desire them to. Magick? Absolutely — read on.

Magick

The whole principle of Magick is to increase the probability of an outcome due to intervention of the will. Morphogenesis is the biggest breakthrough in explaining Magick to come along in a long, long time. Magick is successful directly proportional to the will. We stated the same thing above when we said that one of the best ways to begin or change a Morphic Field is to have a passionate, intense desire to do it. This is will. This is what makes Magick work. Remember, Magick Increases the probability but nature is still chaotic, it's still *only* to increase the probability. The outcome will still vary according to the intensity of the Magician or people involved.

A little note here: What's the difference between Magick and prayer? Magick operates from the premise that humankind is divine and can take care of themselves. Magick takes responsibility for the outcome. Prayer operates from supplication to an external divine power, the premise that the individual is incapable of the action desired.

Learning to interact with Morphic Fields and use Morphic Resonance is a real breakthrough in Magick. By concentrating on a mental image, we realize that when universal energy fills the form of the Morphic Field, it will become reality. We already talked about the influence of mental practice, proven by scientific studies, so we know that thought can influence the outcome of something. We know that thought can influence the formation and evolution of Morphic Fields. From Carlos Castaneda's conversations with the Yaque sorcerer, don Jaun: "*To make the mountains rumble one has to believe they'll rumble!*" For those who believe, no proof is necessary, for those who cannot believe, no proof is possible! The ancient concept of *as above, so below* begins to make sense. As the macro so is the micro. The universe is the macro and we are the micro.

Another good definition of Magick is that *Yesterday's Magick Is Today's Science*. TV, the idea of seeing things at a distance, was talked about in the ancient books of the Hindus. Same with radio, the completely crazy idea of hearing things around the world! We now take all of this as a matter of fact. This may seem to be going back to somewhat of a mechanistic view of science but the truth is that the new ideas come from somewhere. They come from the creative power of the human mind, which must be completely joined with both religion and science.

How about computers? We know what we can do with them now (2005) compared to several years ago, even 1997 when this manuscript was first written. We can't even imagine what they will do in a few more years in the future.

Or is the future now? Is the past now? Is it in the Fields all at once? HMMMMMMMMMMMMM,

Yesterday's Magick is Today's Science – Today's Magick is Tomorrow's Science.

Mind

There are three levels of mind, the conscious, the subconscious and the superconscious (there may be more, who knows). We live and think in the conscious mind, including autonomic functions of the body (heart beat, breathing, digestion, healing, etc.) at the deeper levels. This conscious mind can also link with the subconscious as a way to bridge to the superconscious – actually the Morphic Field of the universe – the ALL. Our personal Morphic Field is probably somewhere in the area where the subconscious links to the superconscious. We really don't know for sure the location of all the various levels of fields but they are there and we can influence them as well as they can influence us. In the Morphic Fields closer to us are our life's memories and probably even many past life memories. This is also where intuitions, gut-feelings, and the like can connect to the knowledge stored there. Deeper levels will connect with the instincts and group memory of the entire human race. This is where different people in different parts of the world end up creating the same thing at just about the same time. We discussed this above as pertaining to fashion design and all the great advancements in electronics and aviation, for example.

One of our primary goals is to learn to better connect the conscious mind with the subconscious mind. The subconscious will automatically connect with the superconscious when we learn how to program it for what we want and need. Read the manuscript on *Life Effectiveness*, part of the study program from Journey to the One.

Ritual and Worldwide Energy

Ritual simply means repetition of activity and many contain considerable intensity of feeling, so Morphic Fields are built up over the years. Some of the most powerful rituals embody practices that existed many hundreds of years ago, maybe thousands. We can tap into this tremendous build up of power. This is the wonderful Magick of ritual. We tap into the balance of the God and Goddess, masculine and feminine, projective and receptive energies in ritual. Tapping into the ancient Morphic Fields brings Resonance of the old powers to bear in the present. That's why it's so important to study the ancient rituals of power, to use the ancient names for deity, to try and study the ancient ways. Students of Wicca always accept, without question, a circle as the natural way to worship. Why? Some link in their mind with the past?

A common example of ritual is the Catholic Mass. This has been repeated many, many thousands of times around the world. It has built up a tremendous Morphic Field of energy that is tapped into every day over and over by Catholic Churches through the world.

Some of this power was lost when the Mass went to English in this country instead of the usual Latin. The English Mass had to build up a whole new Morphic Field. Just ask any older Catholic what they thought of the change, most didn't like it at first but they grew used to it. Most couldn't even tell you what was being said in Latin in the original Mass. They really didn't care! They resonated with the energies — they felt good. *Feel Good* energies like this is just another excellent example of Morphic Fields. We say the words, we draw the energy!

We easily relate to sacred space. Specially the Catholics as the Protestants got rid of a very large part of that concept. What about places like Stonehenge or the many other stone circles in the British Isles? We just need to get near some of these places and the *feel good* energies start flowing. No, it won't happen for the overly skeptical visitors. They don't expect it, they've told themselves that it doesn't exist, so it doesn't! We must be receptive to resonate with the energy of a Morphic Field.

Egregore

Now, there's a word seemingly right out of a grade B horror movie. The Attack of the *Egregores*. "Help, Mama, there's an *Egregore* in the closet and it's coming to get me!" Not even close! This is actually an old belief, similar to the Morphic Field theory. An energy field that builds up over many years and can be tapped into.

A quotation from a recent article by Gaetan Delaforge:

..."An Egregore is a kind of group mind which is created when people consciously come together for a common purpose. Whenever people gather together to do something and Egregore is formed, but unless an attempt is made to maintain it deliberately it will dissipate rather quickly. However, if the people wish to maintain it and know the techniques of how to do so, an Egregore will continue to grow in strength and can last for centuries."

The Egregore (eee-gra-gore'-ay) is more usually associated with spiritual beliefs or esoteric activities and subjects, although could be anything, just another version of a Morphic Field. People build these up over the years

and they always take on an effectiveness greater than the sum of the individuals building it. It will take on a life of its own and will continue to exist in the inner dimension even after not being contacted for centuries. Modern groups of the Knights Templar claim to tap into the old Egregores of the original Templars. We can use this to help draw modern Wicca back into more of the old religion, back beyond the *new age* influence. A note here: Wicca is not *THE* old religion as some claim. It's actually quite modern (1950s) but relates to older religions and cultures. What did our holidays really mean to our ancient ancestors. Tap into the Egregore and try to feel what they felt. Yes, there are some practices that we do not want to tap into such as ancient blood sacrifice practiced by most religions long ago. Even the Jews have this in their history and that does not keep them from interacting with their ancient faith. The Christians, although not as old, have a great deal of bloody history too. That doesn't mean that they have to interact with it when going back on old beliefs, you CAN pick and choose. Let's stop looking for our history in the fantasy section of our local bookstore! Let's study real history from the University libraries. When we understand the ancient people, *really* understand them, we can tap into their Egregore or Morphic Fields.

Are the archetypal Gods and Goddesses actually Egregores? We know there's an overall creative power that's been present since before the beginning of time, consisting of everything there is or ever has been or has not been (maybe even what will be). Are the individual archetypes really Morphic Fields or Egregores? This brings up another old question related to the above subject. Did the Gods create humankind or did humankind create the Gods? Just some stuff to think about !!

Jung's Collective Mind Theory

We can add another theory to Morphic Fields and Egregores, that of Dr. Carl Jung's Collective Mind. Like the other two mentioned in the previous sentence, this has never been accepted by most scientists. Too vague, too hard to prove. (This is starting to change in 2005!) The collective unconscious falls below the personal unconscious (subconscious) which falls below the personal conscious. This is the realm of the superconscious. Jung theorized that this contains the cumulative experiences of all past generations, including our animal ancestors. Morphic Fields again!!

One of the ways we differ somewhat from Jung is that we believe in many layers of Morphic Fields, starting with the individual cell, to various parts of the body, to the whole person, to groups of people, on up to the entire human race. Jung only put forth the idea of a collective memory for all of humanity making it more difficult to contain little individual memories and ideas than a personal Morphic Field.

Jung's Analogy: A number of islands rising above the surface of the water represent the individual conscious minds of a number of people. The land area of each island that is just beneath the water, which from time to time is exposed by the rising and falling tide, represents each individual's personal unconscious. The ocean floor, on which all the islands rest, is the collective unconscious, and the ocean represents its contents.

Now we've got three theories, all pretty much the same, all tying together, Morphic Fields, the Egregore, and now, Jung's Collective Unconscious. There really are quite a few people with similar beliefs after all and it's been around a long time!

Sheldrake's Latest Work, Seven Experiments That Could Change The World

Rupert Sheldrake has written a new book, *Seven Experiments That Could Change The World*, in which he challenges scientists and non-scientists alike to prove his Morphic Field theories either right or wrong. Below are excerpts from the seven sections of this new book which are included here just to make you want to read the book or actually try some of the experiments, of which many suggestions are included in the book. If nothing else, it'll just be more data for you to absorb about Morphogenesis.

(1) Pets Who Sense When Their Caretakers are Returning.

"Apparent telepathic communication. In dramatic cases, some pets seem to know when their distant owner is in danger, reacting with signs of alarm and distress. Other cases are more mundane: for example, some dogs seem to anticipate with uncanny accuracy when they are going to be taken for a walk. Some pets seem to know when their family is going to go away on holiday, even before they start packing."

"Some pets returning from journeys seem to know when they are getting near home, even after a long ride in a car after dark when asleep. My wife and I had a cat, Remedy, who woke up when we were within a mile or two of home after sleeping contentedly for hours. Such a phenomenon could point to a direct connection between the animal and its home, perhaps related to the homing abilities discussed in the next chapter. Or it could simply indicate a response to a well-known pattern of movements and smells as the car approaches home by a familiar route. Or it could be a response to the changing behavior of the people in the car as they get ready to arrive."

"Numerous experiments on homing have already been carried out with pigeons. Nevertheless, after nearly a century of dedicated but frustrating research, no one knows how pigeons home, and all attempts to explain their navigational ability in terms of known senses and physical forces have so far proved unsuccessful. Researchers in this field readily admit the problem. The amazing flexibility of homing and migrating birds has been a puzzle for years. Remove cue after cue, and yet animals still retain some backup strategy for establishing flight direction.' The problem of navigation remains essentially unsolved."

(2) How Do Pigeons Home?

"I propose that the sense of direction of homing pigeons depends on something rather like an invisible elastic band connecting them to their home, and drawing them back toward it. When they are taken away, this band is stretched. If on their return flight they overshoot their home, as some of the pigeons flying with frosted-glass contact lenses did, this connection serves to pull them back again."

"There are many accounts of homing pets, as discussed above; but there are also many stories about pets left at home finding [caretakers] that have moved. Such stories have been told for centuries. For example, in the sixteenth century, a greyhound named Caesar was said to have followed his master from Switzerland to Paris, setting off three days after his master had left by coach. The dog somehow found his master at the court of King Henry III. In an even more heroic example of canine devotion, we are told that during the First World War a British dog named Prince found his way across the English Channel to his master's side at the battlefield in France."

"Most modern cases come to light through reports in local newspapers. For example, when a family was leaving California for a new home in Oklahoma, their Persian cat, Sugar, jumped out of the car, stayed a few days with neighbors, and then disappeared. It turned up a year later at the family's new home in Oklahoma, having traveled well over 1000 miles through unfamiliar territory. Tony, a mongrel dog belonging to the Doolen family from Aurora, Illinois, was left behind when the family moved more than 200 miles north-east to East Lansing, Michigan, around the southern tip of Lake Michigan"

"...Pigeons' magnetic sensitivity has also been tested in laboratory experiments. Most of the published results have failed to show any significant effects of magnetic fields, and in addition many other negative studies have remained unpublished. One of the leading investigators in the field, Charles Walcott, has come to the conclusion that: 'Given the weight of all this negative evidence, coupled with the circumstantial nature of the positive evidence, it becomes very difficult to believe that the pigeon makes use of magnetic cues for its *map*.'"

"Such connections may be a normal feature of animal societies, even though we have hardly begun to understand how they work. In the following chapter I consider a very different example, termite colonies, in which the individual insects also seem to know where the others are and what they are doing. As in the case of wolves, and of pets that know when their people are coming home, and of pets that find their [caretakers], and of pigeons that find their lofts, and of homing behavior in general, and of migration, appropriate explanations may lie beyond the current limits of science."

(3) The Organization of Termites

"Günther Becker in Berlin has demonstrated in laboratory experiments that termites can influence each other by what he calls a 'biofield,' which could be electrical in nature.... ..Becker suggested the 'biofield' was probably an alternating low-energy electric field produced by the termites themselves."

"However, given that electrical and magnetic fields can influence the building activities of termites, such fields are unlikely to be able to provide the blueprint for the entire nest.... Another, more mysterious, kind of field seems likely to be involved as well. Experiments carried out by the South African naturalist Eugène Marais

suggest that such a field exists. In the 1920's, Marais made a fascinating series of observations of the way workers of a *Eutermes* species repaired large breaches he made in their mounds. The workers started repairing the breach from every side, each carrying a grain of earth which it coated with its sticky saliva, and glued into place. The workers on different sides of the breach did not come into contact with each other, and could not see each other, being blind. Nevertheless, the structures built out from the different sides joined together correctly. The repair activity seemed to be coordinated by some overall organizing structure, which Marais attributed to the group soul, and I prefer to think of as a morphic field."

(4) The Sense of Being Stared At

"Is there any evidence that people can tell when they are being looked at by someone, even when they cannot see the person looking at them? For example, can people tell when they are being stared at from behind? As soon as we ask this question, we realize that there is a great deal of anecdotal evidence suggesting that this is the case...."

"How closely related is the sense of being stared at to telepathy? Does looking at someone have a greater effect than just thinking about them without looking? The way to find out is by experiment. For example, the experiment could be modified to include a third condition, in which the lookers think of the receivers but do not look at them. In other words, there would be three kinds of trial in random sequence: looking; not looking and not thinking; not looking but thinking. My own guess is that the effects of looking will be greater than just thinking."

(5) Phantom Touch

"When people lose a flesh-and-blood limb, they do not usually lose the sense of its presence. It feels as if it is really there, even though it is no longer materially real. What kind of reality does the phantom have?In addition to a sense of its shape, position, and movement, amputees generally experience various feelings within the missing limb, such as itching, warmth, and twisting. Phantom limbs can generally be moved at will, and they also move in coordination with the rest of the body. Indeed, they are felt to be part of the body...."

"One of the early theories of phantoms was that they were a kind of memory. It was therefore assumed that they would be absent from people born without a limb (aplasia), for example as a result of their mother having taken thalidomide, a now-banned tranquilizer, during pregnancy. But although most people born without a limb do not seem to have phantoms, between 10 and 20 percent do. Some born without hands experience the presence of fingers, which can be bent. Others born with shortened arms feel their arms to be longer than they really are. For example, a man whose right forearm was almost completely missing, with his hand attached to his elbow, subjectively felt the defective arm to be as long as his normal one. Unlike most phantoms following amputation, the phantoms of congenitally absent limbs are hardly ever painful."

"All the conventional scientific theories are framed within the paradigm of the contracted mind: body schemas, images and phantoms must be in the brain, irrespective of the most immediate experience. However, if the mind is extended within and beyond the body, there is no need to confine the body image to the brain or even to the nervous tissue. In particular, the phantom limb may not be confined to the brain but exist just where it seems to exist: projecting beyond the stump..... The extended mind resembles the traditional idea of the soul pervading and animating the body. But I think it is most helpful today to interpret this concept in terms of fields. The body is itself organized and pervaded by fields. As well as electromagnetic, gravitational, and quantum matter fields, Morphogenetic Fields shape its development and maintain its form. Behavioral, mental, and social fields underlie behavior and mental life. According to the hypothesis of formative causation, Morphogenetic, behavioral, mental, and social fields are different kinds of morphic field, containing an inherent memory both from an individual's own past, and a collective memory from countless other people who have gone before."

(6) The Variability of the 'Fundamental Constants'

"As the name implies, the so-called physical constants are supposed to be changeless. They are believed to reflect an underlying constancy of nature. In this chapter I discuss how the values of the fundamental physical constants have in fact changed over the last few decades, and suggest how the nature of these changes can be investigated further."

"In practice, then, the values of the constants change. But in theory they are supposed to be changeless. The conflict between theory and empirical reality is usually brushed aside without discussion, because all variations are assumed to be due to experimental errors, and the latest values are assumed to be the best.... But

what if the constants really change? What if the underlying nature of nature changes? Before this subject can even be discussed, it is necessary to think about one of the most fundamental assumptions of science as we know it: faith in the uniformity of nature. For the committed believer, these questions are nonsensical. Constants must be constant."

"Several physicists, among them Arthur Eddington and Paul Dirac, have speculated that at least some of the 'fundamental constants' may change with time. In particular, Dirac proposed that the universal gravitational constant, G, may be decreasing with time: the gravitational force weakening as the universe expands. But those who make such speculations are usually quick to avow that they are not challenging the idea of eternal laws; they are merely proposing that eternal laws govern the variation of the constants..... The proposal that the laws themselves evolve is more radical. The philosopher Alfred North Whitehead pointed out that if we drop the old idea of Platonic laws imposed on nature, and think instead of laws being immanent in nature, then they must evolve along with the nature:"

(7) The Effects of Researchers' Expectations

"The evidence for experimenter effects in medicine and the behavioral sciences is undeniable. And that is why 'subtle cues' take on such an important explanatory role. Almost everyone agrees that subtle cues such as gestures, eye movements, body posture, and odors can influence people and animals. Skeptics are very keen on emphasizing the importance of such cues, and rightly so. A favorite example showing the importance of subtle communication is the story of Clever Hans, a famous horse in Berlin at the turn of the century. This horse could apparently perform arithmetic in the presence of its owner by tapping a hoof on the ground to count out an answer. Fraud seemed unlikely, since the owner would allow other people (free of charge) to question the animal themselves. The phenomenon was scientifically investigated in 1904 by the psychologist Oskar Pfungst, who concluded that the horse was receiving clues from gestures made, probably unwittingly, by the owner and other questioners. Pfungst found that he could get the horse to give the correct answer simply by concentrating his attention on the number, though he was not aware of making any movement that would give the number away."

"Although experimenter effects are well recognized in the medical and behavioral sciences, the fact that they are explained--or explained away--in terms of 'subtle cues' prevents them from being taken very seriously in other fields of investigation such as biochemistry. Whereas a person or a rat might pick up a scientist's expectations and respond accordingly, an enzyme in a test tube would not be expected to respond to subtle body language, unconscious facial gestures, etc. Of course, there is a general recognition of the possibility of biased observation, but this is not a result of any actual influence on the experimental system itself. The scientist may 'see' a difference that fits his or her expectancy, but the difference is supposed to be only in the eye of the observer, not in the material studied."

Summary

This is all still a theory, but it certainly does make sense, it explains a lot of what we believe. In Sheldrake's own words: "I'm talking about science on the leading edge.....areas we really don't know about.....These are the questions, and there are ways in which we can investigate them."

Some other scientists are saying that Sheldrake may not have all the answers, by his own admission he doesn't claim to, but he is asking the right questions and suggesting some darn good directions to go to find the answers! He's also urging others to experiment as much as possible and add to his theories.

The established paradigm or majority opinion at any given time may not be the correct one. A study of history will show us that this is a very risky position to adopt. The mechanistic theory of nature, adopted in the 17th century, is still only a theory, but some scientific types still accept it. It's still only faith, not absolute fact, just as the religion they rejected! We think a lot of this theory is wrong. The speed of light isn't even an absolute constant!

Skepticism is good, especially when it applies to the established paradigms as well as new theories. Be a skeptic, look at the established ideas, the positions, the paradigms. Look at the new ideas and theories — then make up your own mind. Whatever position you take will be right for you.

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