

Culture: The Hypnotist

If, through accepting the suggestions of hypnotist I can be brought to see things that aren't there, or to fail to see things that are present to everyone else, or to display strength I never had before, or to be unable to lift the smallest weight, or to create all the signs of a burn when touched by a cold object I had been told was hot, or to walk on burning coals without blistering my feet—if all of this can happen, then how much more it must be true that I see the world the way I have been taught to see it, by that master hypnotist called “our culture.” We are all culturally hypnotized from birth. This explained so much: Our world is shaped by these culturally induced beliefs; our beliefs have real impact on the physical construction of the world. *There is mind-matter connection.*



Willis Harman (1918-1997)

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Note by Harman:

“I have taken the liberty of sharing quite intimately my deepest experiences, and from these I can offer several conclusions. One is that real learning does not come solely through assimilating knowledge; it involves coming to hold one's conceptual frameworks sufficiently lightly to allow in experiences that don't fit well.”