

One for All?

by *Bill Dawson*

Wouldn't it be odd if all humans were issued with one brain between two - and I don't mean two people joined at the head, I mean one person having the brain, but having to think for two people. Not that the other person would have no brain at all, but just a very minor one, only capable of carrying out instructions.

Just consider, the one possessing the brain would have to do the thinking for both of them, and then tell the other exactly what it should do, and when and how it should do it. I suppose it wouldn't be a bad arrangement, except that the non-brained person would not really have any life of its own, any purpose of its own - except perhaps to serve its partner with the brain.

Let's take it one stage further: suppose we were issued with one brain between ten. Then you would have one controller and nine unthinking followers. What do you think might be likely to happen? Exploitation of the small-brained ones? Fights between the gangs of ten?

Imagine there was only one good brain issued for every hundred, or thousand, humans. Imagine some of the brain-possessors, those of like minds, ganged up, joined forces to form more powerful communities. It is likely that leaders among the brainy ones would come to the top, probably the most violent or mouthy, and eventually control the whole tribe or community. They would issue rules and regulations for the mindless ones to follow - and probably punish those who did not follow and obey. There could be an elite few, thinking for the whole community, and maybe led by a mad professor.

Not a pretty picture to paint - more like a horror story, with a world of near zombies.

Let's create a different scenario, a world where every human was issued with a brain of his own. Sounds a better arrangement, doesn't it? But imagine that the mass of humans, when they arrived on earth, had had all their attitudes and actions already planned out for them - ***all their thinking already done for them*** on all major and minor issues, all the rules laid out for how they must act, what they must think, which theories they must accept as fact, what is right and what is wrong.

But there's no need to imagine - that is today's scenario - welcome to the real world

Bill Dawson

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