

**Episode 8 A strange phenomenon in visual recognition: a difference between men and women**

(Discovered while researching glances to probe the mechanism of perception and idea creation)

In Episode 7, we considered why great inventors tend to be male rather than female, and we explained it in terms of a sexual difference in the starting pattern of thinking. When creating the image of a new thing in the FBS technique, the sequence of thought is: first, the theme is established as to the object of the image; second, the Key Word is understood; third, many images are created from the Key Word (or by the NM Method); fourth, the images are selected; and fifth, the sub-theme which underlies the selected image is brought out. After that the Key Word for the sub-theme is understood, and the process is repeated. We also hypothesized that the first and second phases are the roles of the left brain, and the third and the fourth are the roles of the right brain.

In daily conversation, men tend to start from a theme construction or an analytic construction, and women tend to start from image selection (or preferences). Comparing this with the sequence of thinking when creating new things, men tend to start from the left brain and women from the right. The hypothetical conclusion of Episode 7 was that this is why there are more male inventors than female inventors. For creative image making, therefore, one should start from the left brain, and to do that consciously, both men and women should start from the theme. The FBS technique gives a concrete procedure for doing this. In addition, in Episode 7, we presented some observations on how different starting patterns may arise from different bodily mechanisms.

In this episode, 8, we report on a strange phenomenon discovered during one of the observations concerning the direction of glances. The phenomenon is that the direction of glances comes out differently in a mirror. This may be a clue to understanding of mechanism of perception. Before that, however, we would like to explain the practical applications of our results on glances.

**1. Practical application of the direction of glances****(1) The positions for a friendly conversation between men**

Try the experiments on glances with two men as in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. The position in Fig. 1 should enhance familiarity.

**(2) The positions for a friendly conversation between women**

Try the experiments in Figs. 3 and 4.

**(3) The position where a man and woman feel relaxed with each other**

Try the experiments in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6.

2. The six positions in the figures above will have the following applications:

(1) The positions in Figs. 1, 3, and 5

- a. A salesman approaching a customer
- b. Praising or gently scolding a subordinate
- c. Persuading a superior

(2) The positions in Figs. 2, 4, and 6

- a. Sternly scolding a subordinate
- b. Terminating conversation with a person you dislike

3. The strange phenomenon

To come to the main point of this Episode, if we do the above experiments with a mirror, we get opposite results. If a man and woman try the experiments in Figs. 5 and 6, the direction of the glance which enhances familiarity is reversed. Looked at from above, the relationship is as in Figs. 7 and 8.

Fig. 7 shows the familiar position when looking at each other directly, and Fig. 8 is the position when looking in a mirror. Looking at these figures, we see the directions of friendly glance are reversed. You can confirm this on your own. On the other hand, the situation in Fig. 7 requires another person for confirmation. As a further confirmation of these phenomena, in a questionnaire we asked several sensitive women "Which side of your face do you feel is prettier in a mirror?" The answer was when the left side is turned toward the mirror, that is when the eyes were to the left. You may have noticed that pictures of women in newspapers and magazines are often from the front left. That women can see their faces only with mirrors may be a contributing factor.

Let us now explain why the above phenomena are strange. First of all, it is unknown why the phenomenon in Fig. 5 arises. If it is due to a difference in appearance between the left and right, we may hypothesize there should be signs, such as the pupils are dilated or the shape of the eye differs, when the woman turns her eyes to the right. However, as we have explained, women look prettier in mirrors when they look to the left. The hypothesis therefore does not hold.

In mirrors, left corresponds to left and right corresponds to right even though they are mirror images. This is why the hypothesis does not hold. So we ask whether the difference arises on the receiving end. We hypothesize that men and women consciously change the direction of their glance depending on the sex of the other. This does not hold either since the same experiment performed on 5 and 6 year old girls gives

identical results with regards to the direction of glances. Therefore, the question of the direction of glances remains a puzzling phenomena.

The remaining possibility is dextro-rotation and levo-rotation. A top spinning counterclockwise looks like it is spinning to clockwise in a mirror. If we are shown pairs of pictures of natural objects (often appearing in psychology textbooks), with one being the mirror image of the other, we do not feel that there is much difference between them. However, we are sensitive to the direction of glances in mirrors. The real world and its mirror image are three-dimensional, but pictures are two-dimensional. Perhaps we have a mechanism for sensing dextro-rotation and levo-rotation. This may explain the puzzle.

#### 4. Sexual differences in the initial mode of viewing objects (Part 1)

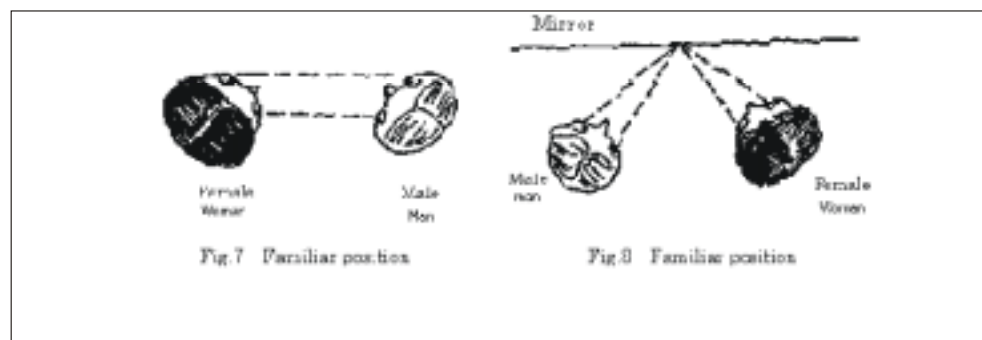
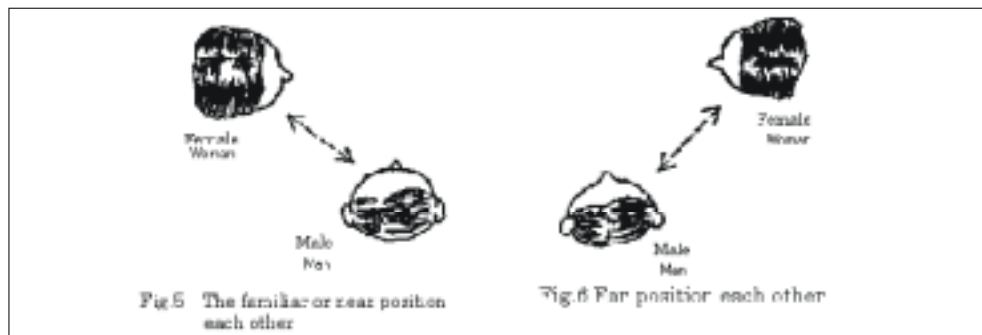
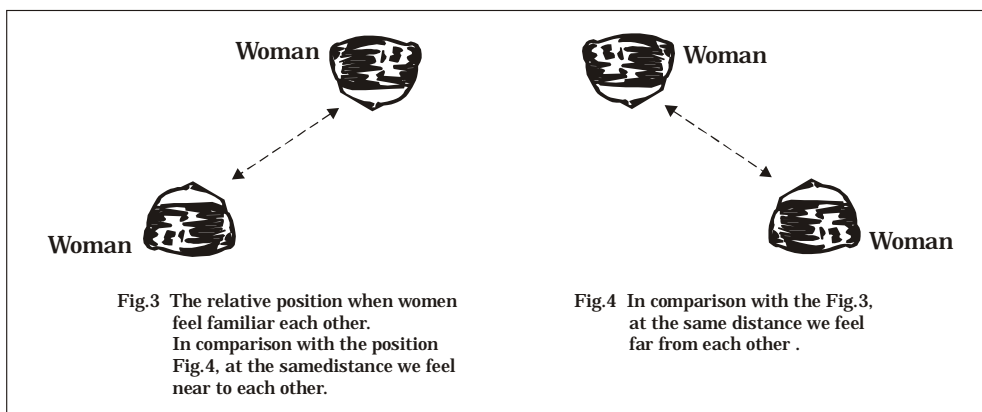
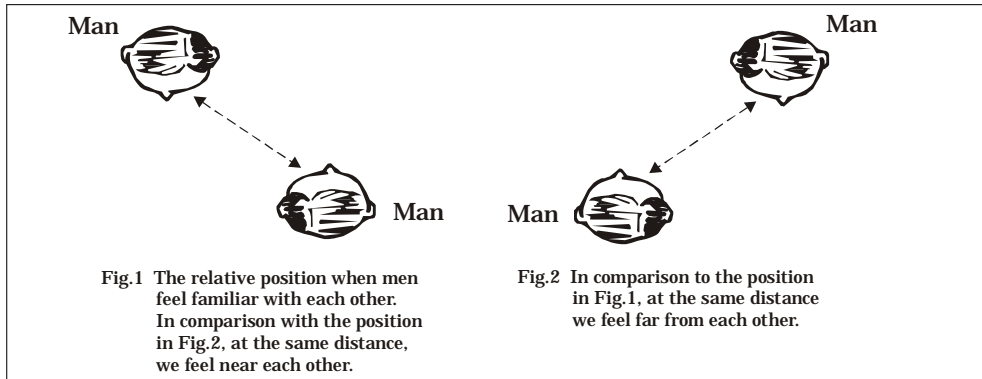
(1) Men have the habit of viewing scenes from the periphery to the center, that is convergently.

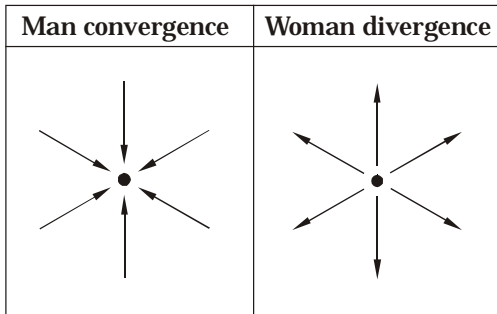
(2) Women have the habit of viewing scenes from the center to the periphery, that is, divergently.

As a result, women prefer glittering things like diamonds and tend to lose track of direction, such as "When I take her to a flower shop, she remembers the flower, but forgets how to get to the shop." This can be avoided by conscious effort (Fig. 9). On the other hand, men prefer whole shapes (airplanes or nudes).

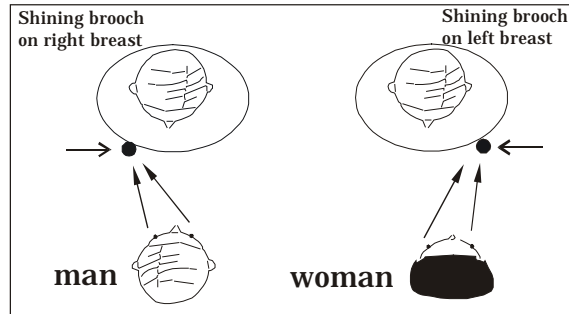
#### 5. Sexual differences in the initial mode of viewing objects (Part 2)

Fig. 10 shows which side is easily seen by men and women when a brooch or a name plate is pinned on the chest. From the side of a man, the right breast is easy to look at, but from the side of a woman, the left breast is easy to look at.





Episode Fig8-9.  
The sexual differences in looking at something  
by initial mode of unconsciousness



Episode Fig. 8-10.