

Phrenology, Systems & Psychology

When Is A Science *Really* A Pseudoscience?



Phrenology Bust by L.N.Fowler

Examining a Phrenology Bust, left, I noticed the word “system”—see right-hand picture. Remarkable, since the bust was dated 1849. Didn’t know *systems* was a ‘thing’ back then... Was this some kind of premonition/provenance. Vis-à-vis systems thinking? The systems approach? Even systems engineering? Perhaps there was a special ‘systems bump’? Heaven forbid....!!

Don’t *think* phrenology influenced “systems...” Still, it did, apparently, influence the early *neuroscientists* and *psychologists*. Psychology. Today considered a science. Yet founded,

partly, in Phrenology—a *pseudoscience*, like palmistry, astrology and Tarot Cards:

“Phrenology has been psychology’s great *faux pas*”

J.C. Flugel (1933)—“*A Hundred Years of Psychology*”

Of course, we need have no such worries about Psychology today, need we? But wait. There’s all that Gender Identity stuff, where psychologists avow that a person’s gender (meaning sex, apparently) is nothing to do with biology, or their sex at birth, but it is *really how they feel*...

So, if you are an unfortunate chap who feels that you are a woman, then you really are a woman, with all that entails: mature eggs; menses; etc. Now that really would be magic! Mmm...

Phrenology was discounted after empirical research showed it to be nonsense. A former male ‘becoming’ a fully-functioning female would make the psychologist’s case. Else, it too is nonsense. Else, too, hasn’t psychology shown itself still to be a pseudoscience? Whoops!

Thinks...perhaps, after all, we should bring back phrenology...? A “systems bump?” Now *that* would be something...
