



The Brain of the Horse

Think of this:

- The word no said bluntly without any consideration of the question.
- Communicate with someone who is drunk, angry, in a panic, or is full of resistance that they are blind to and reasonable discussion.
- A person out-of-control with emotions, running on adrenaline only, they either fight or run away. They behave impulsively and must do something to get relief from how they feel.

Feelings what are they?

My opinion:

"They are a state of mind that controls ones action to think clearly"

Do horses have feelings?

"I believe they do not. They react to reading intention to protect themselves from harm" and only when "they" know its safe and feel secure do they relax and go back to head down and eating.

- Have you heard the words : "I was out of my mind" or "I totally lost it". In physiological terms, something caused this person to go from using the panic & rage driven by the right side of the brain (the side that reacts without thinking) to using the logical & reasoning left side of his brain. The right brain reaction in humans usually causes fear or anger.
- The brain of a horse although less complex then a human, is similar in having a right and left side that functions differently.
- A horse is using the left side of brain is able to think – "do I want this human to catch me and put that halter on my head, or do I want to go back to my mates in the mob.
- When a horse is using the right side of his brain he is unable to think, and reacts. In some cases the horse is not only afraid, but "blind with fear" in some cases happens whilst being riding or walking a horse on the ground.

Now a question what happens:

MFC believes there are three (3) intentions when a horse is afraid. They are "FEAR (reaction) FLIGHT & FIGHT. And if you can secure the first we never see the other two. We do this by listening and using our eyes. As horses do, read intention.

- Do not let a horses since fear and there will be non - don't make a horse fearful and he will not show fear - Don't scare a horse and it won't take flight - don't pick a fight with a horse and he won't fight back.
- Horses have survived for millions of years because of lightening fast instinct for self-preservation.



- When a horse is using the right side of his brain not only is communication impossible but any attempt by a human at controlling the horse's ability to move his feet (his survival response) will be met with resistance; often makes the situation unsafe for both.

What do we humans do?

Answer: match strength with strength.

- We are foolish we do it even when we know we are out matched. In fact any use of force is totally pointless. Even more so if it's going to cause pain is for the horse or you being hurt is without thinking. The horses will react to his fear and if it's connected to pain the horse will never forget it and will make someone pay later, the first time the horse relives that fear.

Question: How then can we work with a horse keep all safe?

WE CAN RESORT TO NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP - JOIN UP - REFLECT REALITY OR ANY OTHER FORM OF HORSE TRAINING.

First we must know what to do. We must map out a plan. We must be prepared to adjust our thinking. We must develop an application that we can apply instead of coping what some of these professional trainers are showing us what to do. Remember they are great horses that people and can make things look easy and yes it works, but you are not them.

We cause and affect the horse to using the right side of the brain instead of the left side brain.

This stops the non-thinking fear/flight/fight response and the flow of adrenaline. It initiates the thinking response and starts the release of endorphins which soothes and calms the horse.

Remember horses cannot reason - they learn for pressure release - compulsion and inducements.

We say move the horse's feet. The question is how and why?

Why? If we cause the horse to think by moving his feet, in doing this we must have a reason to move the horses and then its feet. If we just cause pain and wild movements running and being chased, you are just compounding the problem and saying this is great and how you want your horse to be.

- Give your horse a job cut and dry. What sort of a job - left right turns- back ups - lower the head - move hips - get the horse looking and listening to you your his trainer.
- Do it both sides left and right - show him the right side he can trust and build the trust as one done on the left.
- I read this somewhere and it's a true quote: "A horse does not need to think in order to run but he has to think in order to move his hip sideways by crossing over his two hind legs."

MFC believe it do sent matter what you ride or how you ride, If it's western, English or just fun - get the ground work right first and if it's not don't get on - because you will only make it unsafe from the horse's back.

Question would you allow a trainer ride your horse if they could not control your horse on the ground or confused your horse when riding it?

Answer: No



- Then don't you do it as you are that trainer - you are the horses trainer no one else - even if you send the horse to someone else - it has to come back to you and the trainer takes over.
- That's why you see show horses go well with a professional trainer and when they go back to the non-pro owner and over time the wheels fall off. And or owners go to clinic after clinic always wanting to achieve fix a problem. Again the wheels fall off disappointment checks in - told to sell horse - get another one - or you are injured - the horse is gone we have failed the horse.
- You are the horse's leader! We must be able to offer our horses positive direction, feelings of safety, comfort, trust, with respect and reassurance. The horse will look to you for leadership. This will work to keep all safer.

What are you looking for on the left side Brain?

- Licking and chewing with mouth
- Blinking of eyes
- Level head and neck
- Muscles are relaxed
- Endorphins are released for calmness

What are you looking for on the right side brain?

- Neck is elevated - eyes are wide, showing the white - nose is flared blowing - The mussels are tight and the body tight and braced -
- Adrenaline is released from fear for flight.
- Right Brain action points:
- Predators, humans, new or unfamiliar places - Movement, objects lying still. The horses head moves and so dose the object they think.

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