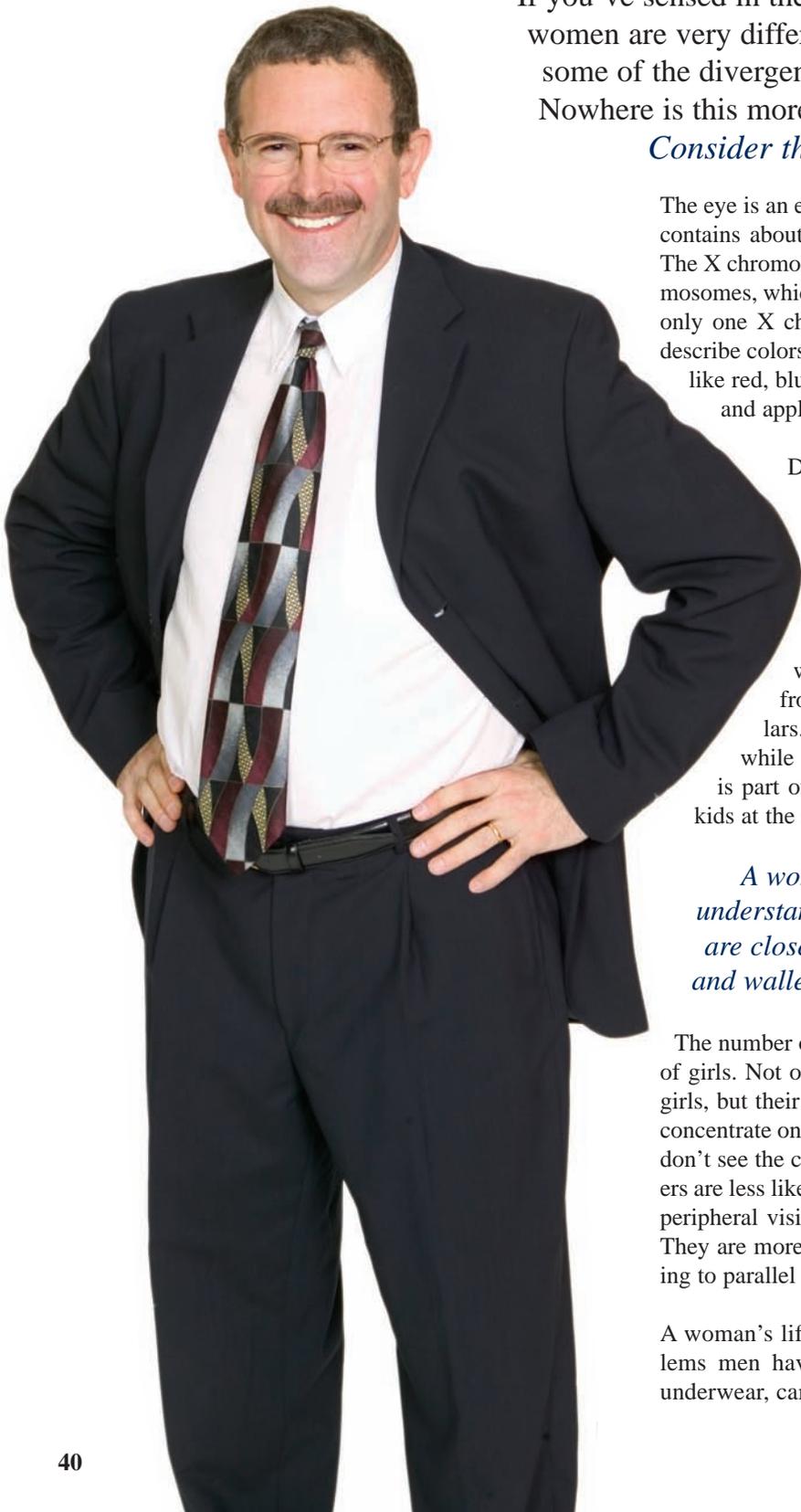


How a Man's Mind *REALLY* Works! Part 4

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Photo by Jeff Silker



If you've sensed in these last articles that the brains of men and women are very different, then you've probably been noticing some of the divergent behavior between males and females. Nowhere is this more evident than in the senses themselves!

Consider the following interesting facts.

The eye is an extension of the brain. The retina at the back of the eyeball contains about seven million cone-shaped cells to handle color vision. The X chromosome provides these color cells. Women have two X chromosomes, which give them a greater variety of cones than men who have only one X chromosome. The difference is noticeable in how women describe colors in greater detail. A man will use a basic color description like red, blue, or green, but a woman will speak of aqua, teal, mauve, and apple green.

Did you ever wonder if your mother had eyes in the back of her head? You had good reason to wonder that! Women not only have greater color vision, but they also have a wider peripheral vision than men. Many women's peripheral vision is effective up to almost 180 degrees. A man's eyes are larger than a woman's and his brain configures them for a type of long distance tunnel vision, which means he can see clearly and accurately directly in front of him and over great distances – almost like binoculars. This allows a man to focus clearly on a distant target while women can monitor everything going on around her. This is part of the reason why women can cook dinner and watch the kids at the same time – a recipe for disaster with many men.

A woman's life is much less stressful when she understands the problems men have seeing things that are close at hand. Socks, shoes, underwear, car keys, and wallets – they're all there, but men can't find them.

The number of boys injured or killed on roads is more than double that of girls. Not only will boys will take more risks crossing the road than girls, but their poorer peripheral vision increases their injury rate. They concentrate on getting somewhere or something across the street and just don't see the car coming. Car insurance statistics show that female drivers are less likely to be hit on the side than are male drivers. Their greater peripheral vision allows them to see traffic approaching from the side. They are more likely to hit the front or the back of a car while attempting to parallel park as that challenges their spatial skills.

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them. With a wider arc of vision, women can see most of the contents of the fridge or cupboard without moving her head. Men tend to move their head from side to side and up and down as they scan for missing objects. Have you ever wondered if a man could be serious when he says, "What do you mean the house is a mess? He won't see the same things you see that are out of place or need to be cleaned. Men look at the world differently than women. In this picture your brain focuses on the solid color so it looks like a group of odd shapes. When you look at it and concentrate on the white portions, the world FLY appears. A woman is more likely to see FLY than a man is, as his brain gets stuck trying to resolve the geometric shapes.



Women have much better hearing than men do and are excellent at distinguishing high-pitched sounds. For every man who can sing in tune, there are eight women who can do the same. Dripping sinks drive women crazy, while men sleep oblivious to the sound. With her superior verbal processing, a woman has the ability to separate and categorize sound and make decisions about each sound. This accounts for a woman's ability to listen to one person in face-to-face conversation while monitoring

another person's conversation. It also explains why a man has difficulty hearing a conversation while the television is on in the background or dishes are being clattered in the sink. If the phone rings, a man asks that people stop talking and the music be turned down for him to answer it. A woman simply answers the phone.

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Women have superior sensitivity in differentiating tone changes in voice volume and pitch. This enables them to hear emotional changes taking place in children and adults. Many men don't have a clue what a woman's talking about when she says, "Don't use that tone of voice with me!" Men are not able to decipher the emotional content of speech nearly as well as women.

There will always be mysteries between men and women. Our brains are different, so we think, feel, act, hear, and see differently. The problem for women is that they often try to analyze a man's behavior from their own female standpoint. As a result, the behavior of the men in their lives can often be baffling. The truth is that men operate differently than women, and understanding this can make life much less frustrating for everyone. Next time we'll talk more about the differences in the way we process our emotions. *Until then, viva la difference! ♪*

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