

《世界左撇子日：关于左撇子你不知道的6件事》



August 13th is Left Handers' Day and this year, 2014, will mark the 22nd annual celebration. The first celebration took place in 1976 to promote awareness of left handers' and the struggles they face with the day-to-day products catered towards the right-handed predominant population. It has been estimated that up to 10 percent of the world's population are left-handers and even now, many are still discriminated in society for being born that way. Scientists have studied left handers' for a while now to see what differences they boast in comparison to their peers, and here are six surprising discoveries:

2014 8月13日是左撇子日，今年，2014年，将标志着第22届年度庆祝活动。第一次庆祝活动于1976年举行，以促进对左撇子及其与日常产品斗争的认识。据估计，世界上有高达10%的人口是左撇子，甚至现在，许多人仍然因为天生如此而在社会受到歧视。科学家们已经研究左撇子一段时间了，以了解他们与同龄人相比有什么差异，以下是六项令人惊讶的发现：

1. Left-handers are more likely to develop schizophrenia. A whopping 20 percent of schizophrenics are said to be left-handers, which is a strong proportion considering they only make up 10 percent of the world's population. What's more, being left handed has been associated with mood disorders, ADD and dyslexia.

1. 左撇子更有可能患上精神分裂症。据说有20%的精神分裂症患者是左撇子，考虑到他们只占世界人口的10%，这是一个很强的比例。更重要的是，左撇子与情绪障碍、多动症和阅读障碍有关。

2. Left-handers have a shorter lifespan. It has been quoted, for what seems to be ages, that left-handed people have a shorter life span by nine years than their right-handed peers. This information was shared in the 1980s in two scientific journals -- "Nature" and the "New England Journal of Medicine" -- by psychologists Diane Halpern and Stanley Corenboth. But critics of the study have pointed out that some of the subjects of the study could have been right-handed, since it was common to train a child to use the that hand, and thus, the data was erroneous.

2. 左撇子有更短的使用寿命。据说，似乎已经很久了，左撇子比他们的右撇子同龄人寿命短九年。这一信息是在20世纪80年代在两份科学杂志——《自然》和《新英格兰医学杂志》——由心理学家黛安·哈尔珀恩和斯坦利·科伦博斯分享的。但对该研究的批评者指出，一些研究对象的某些数据可能是错误的，因为训练孩子使用右手是常见的，因此，数据是错误的。

3. Left-handers do worse on timed exams. It could be because of the right-handed desks in school or awkward sitting positions, but left-handers do worse on timed exams. Lefties, know that you can ask your school for special seating on your exam to accommodate your hand dominance!

4. Left-handers are most scared. You know that lefties suffer from more disorders in the aforementioned point above, but did you know they're twice as likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder? If you're curious why, then know that it is because left-handers have a dominant right brain, which is responsible for the symptoms of PTSD.

5. Left-handers will be worse at languages. The left hemisphere of our brain is responsible for language function, according to Psychology Today, and this is the less dominant hemisphere for lefties. As such, they have less dominance for language.

6. Left-handers are better at certain sports. For instant, in sports where opponents are facing off each other (e.g. boxing, tennis) lefties have an advantage due to the "fighting hypothesis," which states that lefties are better away to combat their opponent's rightward movement with their dominant left hand.

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