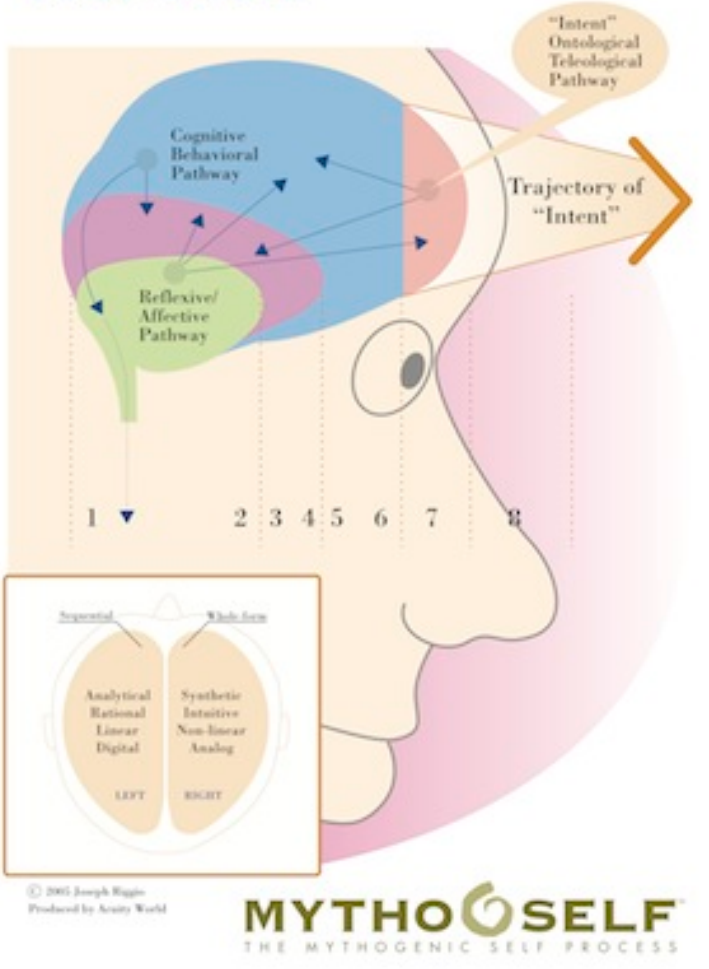




# DR. JOSEPH RIGGIO

DISCREET PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

## Your Brain



## “Your Brain” - an Emergent Cyclical View

While there are many maps and models of the human brain that are available to choose from, neuro-cognitive science is progressing at a rate which seems to nullify a map or model of the brain every week these days. Yet many, if not all, maps and models remain relevant and valuable in terms of describing the brain from a particular point of view.

Anyone familiar with the Dr. Clare W. Graves “Emergent Cyclical Double-Helix Model of Adult Bio-Psycho-Social Behaviour,” or as it was popularized by Don Beck and Chris Cowen, “Spiral Dynamics,” will recognize the “Emergent Cyclical” reference above. My illustration is a visual description of the Dr. Graves model mapped onto the physical brain from a functional point of view - beginning with reflex behaviors through to higher level cortical and post-cortical (transpersonal) cognition.

The numerical scale at the bottom of the illustration represents the levels in the Graves Model relative to where in the brain the primary cognitive processes relevant to the functions are most associated through Level 8. For instance, Graves Level 2 (Tribal) is mapped at the boundary of the “Reflexive Affective Pathway” or relative to where limbic processing is dominant, but open to higher levels of cortical processing. This approach to mapping the brain in relation to the Graves Model levels is unique to this map and consistent for the entire illustration.

Mapping the brain in this way opens up significant access to understanding the relationship of cognition and performance, i.e.: the acknowledgement of the interactive nature of cognitive feedback loops and feed-forward perceptual processing (i.e.: what comes before shapes what is perceived in the moment and the projection of meaning into the future) that shapes iterative behavioral responses.

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Dr. Joseph Riggio