

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS AFTER BRAIN INJURY

Statewide Presentation for Brain
Injury Awareness Month



Presentation by Valerie E Stone, PhD, of Answers About
Brain Injury www.AboutBrainInjury.com/FamilyInfo.html



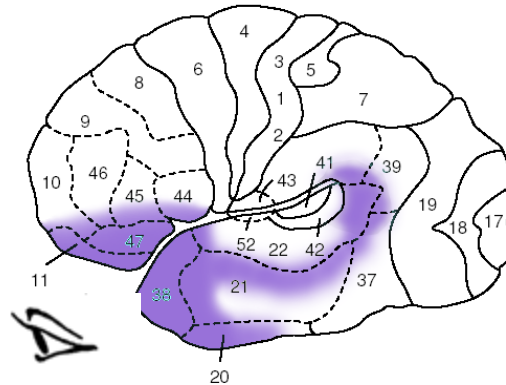
Some possible social & emotional issues following TBI

- Communication
- Tracking multi-person conversations
- Reading faces
- Reading body language
- Figuring out others' intentions
- Emotional responses
- Changes in sense of humor
- Being impulsive

Just a little bit about the brain

There is a good medical reason for these social & emotional symptoms!

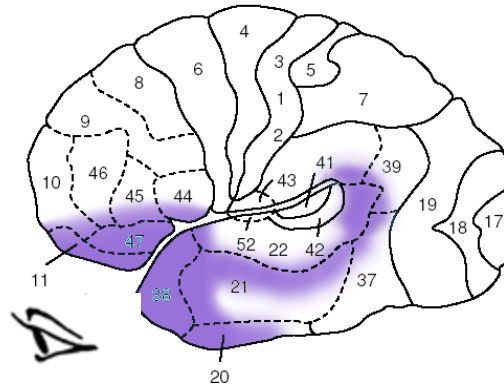
Social & emotional areas of the brain



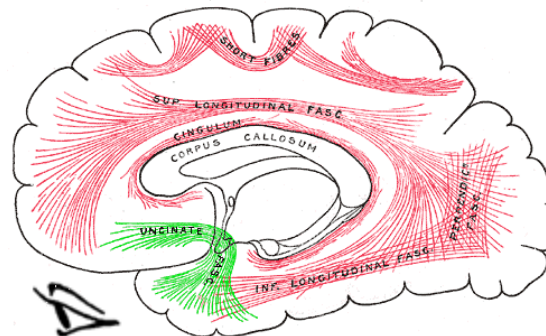
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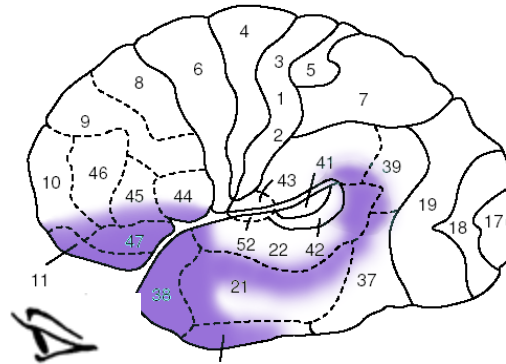
Connections between social & emotional brain areas



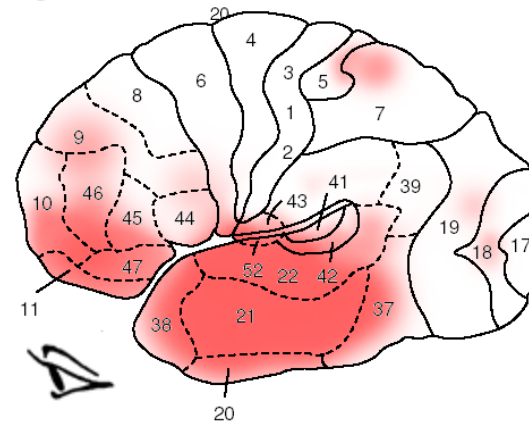
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Social & emotional areas of the brain



Brain areas most likely to be affected by TBI

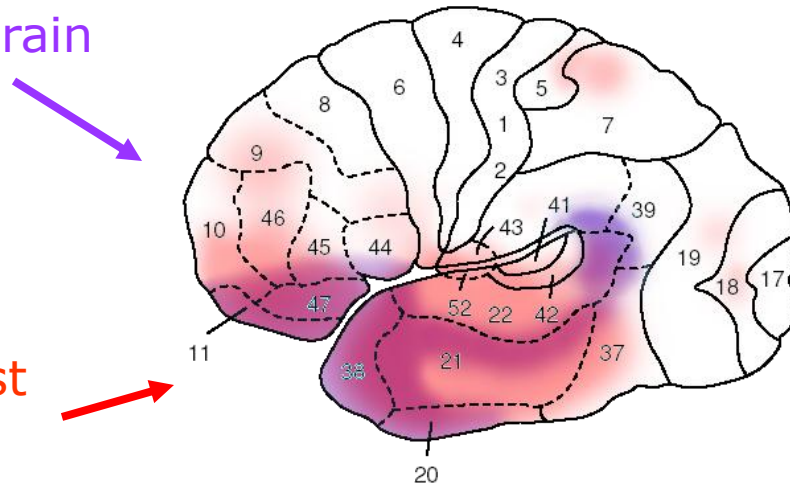


Just a little bit about the brain

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Social & emotional areas of the brain

Brain areas most likely to be affected by TBI



A lot of overlap!

Social/emotional issues that may be a challenge now will be fine later on

- Social & emotional issues get better with rehab!
 - Social skills rehabilitation
 - Cognitive rehab improves relationships
- None of these issues have to be permanent disabilities.



Image credits at end of slides

Friendship and support

Support networks
are important



Who understands
what you're going through?



Educating friends

Interacting with Co-Workers

1 or 2 people at a time – avoid overwhelm



Having an advocate
or coach



Marriage and Long-term Committed Relationships

Partner support and education

- BIAC support groups



Anger & temper issues



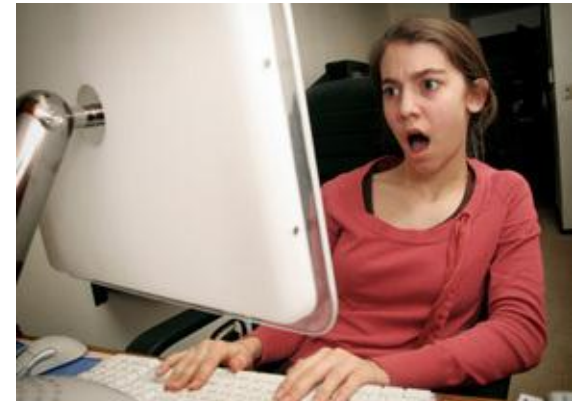
5 positive things for every 1 negative thing



Dating



Is there anything more complicated than dating?



Avoiding Exploitation

Financial relationships





Handouts and tip-sheets for you:

[www.AboutBrainInjury.com / FamilyInfo.html](http://www.AboutBrainInjury.com/FamilyInfo.html)

"Educating your Friends and Extended Family"

This is a word document you can change and add to, because each person is different.

"Financial Safety"

These are some tips that are good advice for all of us.

I'm also happy to come talk to your group, or talk to people on the phone during my telephone office hours.

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Slides 3-6: *Gray's Anatomy*; Reflected Sun Images

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