

The Power of Suggestion

Intro

You will have to practice this a few times on friends and relatives to convince yourself that it really does work!

Effect

The Magician is able to find out what a person is thinking simply by getting them to hold a ["magic"] pendulum!

Materials

- White cotton thread approximately 15 inches long
- Finger ring, metal washer or metal key ring
- Spectator/volunteer (spec)
- Deck of standard playing cards in box

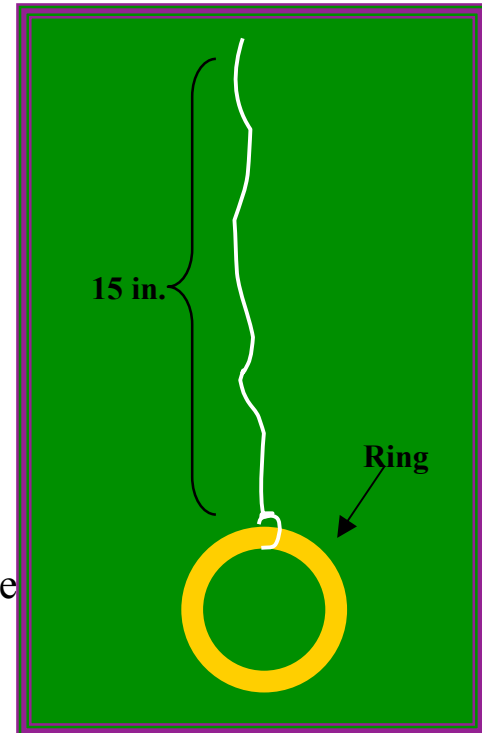
Preparation

Tie the ring neatly to the end of the thread (fig. 1). Pocket the new pendulum, and in the other pocket place the boxed deck of cards.

Performing

1. Hand the cards to a volunteer. Turn your back and say, "Look through the deck and find your favorite card. Memorize it and place it on the table. Now also find two indifferent cards and place them on the table too. Make all three cards into a row and decide where each card is positioned. All the cards should be face up. Done?" (Yes, you do say all of that.)
2. Turn back to face the spec. Explain that you surely do not know what or where the memorized/favored card is, and also therefore where he has placed it. Continue by saying, "You are going to help

fig. 1



me find the card, believe or not; you and my magic pendulum, that is.”

3. Upon saying “magic pendulum” draw it out of your pocket. Continue, “I’m going to ask you three questions, to which your answer will be yes or no. But don’t tell me the answer, just focus on it in your mind, and the pendulum will speak for you!” **HERE’S THE IMPORTANT PART THAT YOU SAY:** “If the truthful answer to my question is yes, the pendulum will swing back and forth in a strait line. If the truthful answer is no, the pendulum will swing around in a circle. Have you got that? Just nod if the answer is yes.”
4. Now show him how you want him to hold the pendulum (fig 2.).
5. Run through everything once again: “If the truthful answer is yes the pendulum will swing to and fro; if no, it will swing in a circle (fig. 3). Ready? Ok. Here are the questions.”

fig. 2

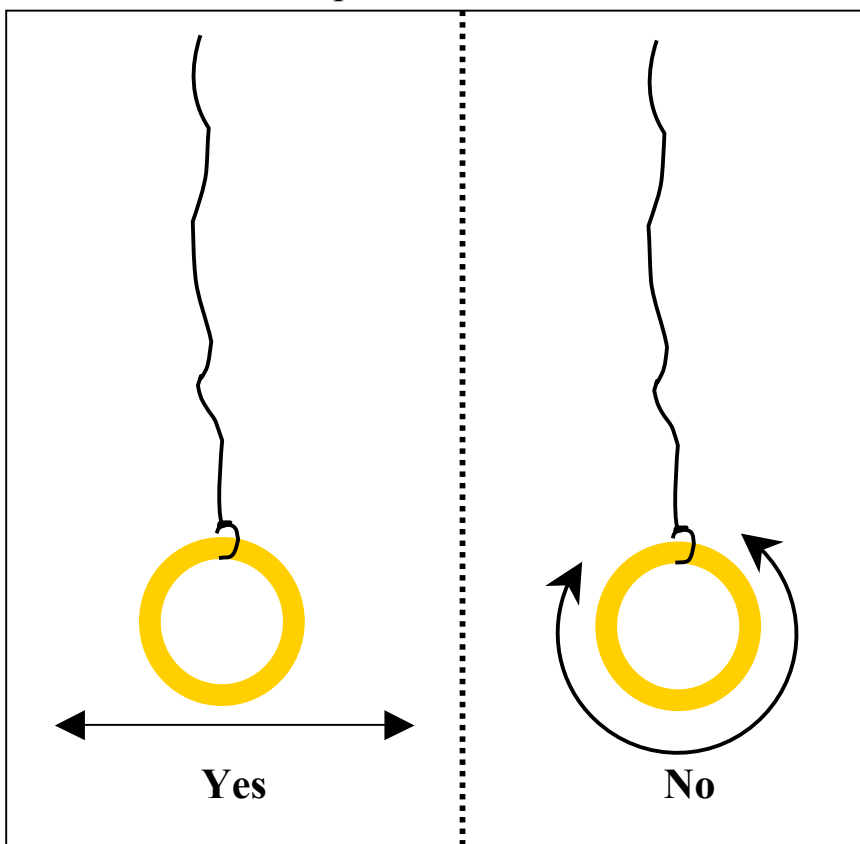
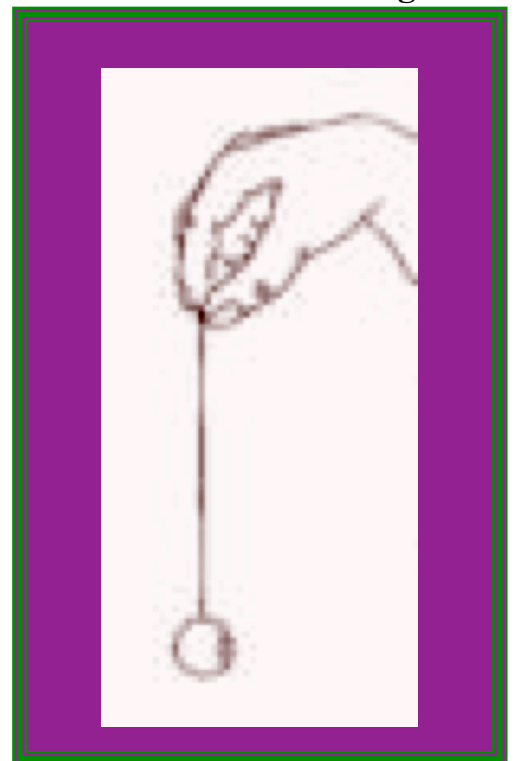


fig. 3

6. Point to one of the cards and ask, “Is this your favorite card? Focus. Think yes or no.” Now watch the pendulum. If it swings back and forth you have found the card. If not, move on to another card, and repeat the question while pointing at the next card. You

also need to make sure that the pendulum is absolutely stationary before each “reading” is taken.

7. As the performer, you can choose to stop as soon as you find the card for which the answer is yes. Or you can continue until it is confirmed that one is yes and two are no. When you are ready, pick up the card which is the marked one!

Tips, tricks and Ideas

- This trick really does seem to be mysterious! According to psychologists, the pendulum signal works by a combination of suggestion and response. You have suggested to the spectator that the truthful answer of yes will produce a back and forth movement of the pendulum, while a truthful no response will produce a circular movement. His/her unconscious mind is triggered by your questions to produce minute, imperceptible movements in the pendulum-holding hand so generating the required pendulum movement. Such a reaction is called psychomotor response, and believe it or not, the trick works well with most people most of the time!
- Make sure the spec holds the pendulum completely still!!!
- Practice, practice, practice!
- Make a pendulum that is not too heavy, but that is not so light that a straitened out paper clip won't bend und it's weight.
- Have fun!!!

This trick was created in part and distributed by Carson Kahn. To contact him with questions about this trick or any other that he has sent to you, email him at carsonkahn@gmail.com.

“Live by the lyrics; the lyrics are life.”

-Carson Kahn