



# ***An Essay of Curiosity***

by Robert Ing, DSc, DLitt, FAPSc



## **The Sign of the Horns**

The sign of the horns is a hand gesture that has been met with much controversy, sensationalism and urban legend. This single gesture, often erroneously attributed solely to Satanism or the occult has been used as circumstantial evidence to maintain conspiracy theories linking politicians, celebrities and other public figures in an “us” and “them” polarization.

Many self-proclaimed “reputable” sources have made superficial attempts at identifying this gesture and those who show it, with the final outcome being that it is always a Satanic symbol, it is evil and that it supports the belief of a dark sinister conspiracy of secret world domination. It is true to an extent that this hand gesture with its variations are considered restricted information by the groups that use them. Restricted in the sense of restricted for the use by members of the specific group; otherwise if everyone knew how to do the specific gesture, it would no longer be a means of identification amongst members.

Restricted and secret are two different things. If the gesture were secret, then no one would do it in public, especially in front of cameras to be recorded and disseminated ad infinitum. It would only be given in closed chambers or private functions. Furthermore, if the gesture and its variations were secret, this would mean that the detailed material I will cover in this essay will be solely at my peril; while I know that this is not the case at all.

The information on this gesture and its variations are generally associated with those I have identified on an international basis. Further variants of this gesture do exist in some regional and local areas but they are not as common or shall we say, are special cases.

*Dr. Robert Ing is a forensic scientist, broadcaster, author, life strategies coach, magician, mentalist and occultist. For more information please visit [www.drroberting.com](http://www.drroberting.com)*  
Copyright 2011 Dr. Robert ing



# ***An Essay of Curiosity***

by Robert Ing, DSc, DLitt, FAPSc



This essay is one of a series I had written on Satanic subject matter out of the frustration of the proliferation of investigative articles and materials based on historical fiction, hearsay, misinformation and urban legend. My motivation for writing on what some consider to be a rather 'hot' and controversial subject is to educate and inform on the basis of truth and not sensationalism.

Through my personal experience, research and personal involvement in various fraternities and organizations I present a specific catalogue of the sign of the horns and its variations in the hopes that fewer people will not see demons that aren't there and sleep better with one less conundrum to consider.

## **How The Sign of the Horns is Formed**



The basic sign of the horns is formed by extending the index and pinky finger while holding the middle and ring finger down against the palm of the hand. Variations of this gesture are achieved by which hand - right or left is used, position of the thumb, whether the palm or back of the hand is facing forward or inward or parallel to the ground. It is these variations which identify the specific group or purpose of the gesture.

What follows are the twelve universal variations of the sign of the horns and their associations.

*Dr. Robert Ing is a forensic scientist, broadcaster, author, life strategies coach, magician, mentalist and occultist. For more information please visit [www.drroberting.com](http://www.drroberting.com)  
Copyright 2011 Dr. Robert ing*



# ***An Essay of Curiosity***

by Robert Ing, DSc, DLitt, FAPSc



<b>Hand and Hand Position</b>	<b>Associated with</b>
Right Hand – Thumb over middle fingers	Scottish Rite fraternal orders
Right Hand – Thumb under middle fingers	Wiccan symbol for Pan or Cernunnos, Luciferian sign of the horns
Right Hand – Thumb outstretched from hand	York Rite fraternal orders, gesture for “I Love You”
Right Hand – Thumb straight on top of base of index finger	Satanic sign of the horns
Right Hand – Thumb tip touching tips of middle and ring finger	Islamic fraternal orders
Right Hand – Back of hand facing forward, thumb not outstretched from palm	Gesture to guard against the evil eye, heavy metal and rock music gesture

Copyright © 2011 Dr. Robert Ing

*Dr. Robert Ing is a forensic scientist, broadcaster, author, life strategies coach, magician, mentalist and occultist. For more information please visit*

*[www.drroberting.com](http://www.drroberting.com)*

*Copyright 2011 Dr. Robert ing*



# ***An Essay of Curiosity***

by Robert Ing, DSc, DLitt, FAPSc



<b>Hand and Hand Position</b>	<b>Associated with</b>
Left Hand – Thumb over middle fingers	Scottish Rite fraternal orders, European occultist gesture
Left Hand – Thumb under middle fingers	Luciferian sign of the horns
Left Hand – Thumb outstretched from hand	York Rite fraternal orders, gesture for “I Love You”,
Left Hand – Thumb straight on top of base of index finger	Satanic sign of the horns
Left Hand – Thumb tip touching tips of middle and ring finger	York Rite fraternal orders
Left Hand – Back of hand facing forward, thumb not outstretched from palm	Heavy metal and rock music gesture

Copyright © 2011 Dr. Robert Ing

*Dr. Robert Ing is a forensic scientist, broadcaster, author, life strategies coach, magician, mentalist and occultist. For more information please visit [www.drroberting.com](http://www.drroberting.com)*  
Copyright 2011 Dr. Robert ing