

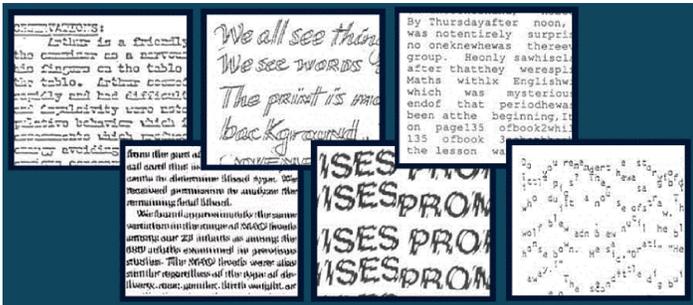


# Brain Injuries & Visual Problems

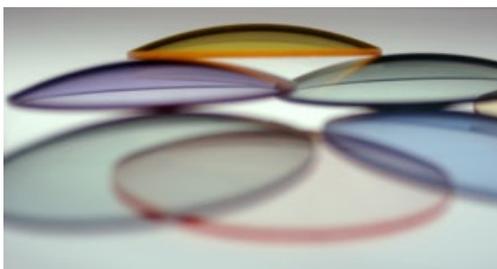
Whether a head injury is caused by a motor vehicle accident or a traumatic brain injury, during combat, or

simply slipping on ice hitting your head on the front steps, these injuries can result in neurological changes in memory, ability to focus attention, ability to coordinate movement, ability to perform mental calculations and other cognitive tasks. These injuries can also result in change in personality and changes in the ability to see clearly.

Thanks to the efforts of an educational psychologist, Helen Irlen, the inventor of Irlen filters, individuals, including veterans returning from the Middle East, are being helped with visual distortions resulting from traumatic brain injuries. In the early 1980s, Helen Irlen identified and began to help individuals with a visual processing disorder which is called scotopic sensitivity or Irlen Syndrome. These individuals struggle through their school years attempting to read, can be very sensitive to light and have impaired depth perception. Below are examples of some of the



types of distortions which can occur. These difficulties in visual processing sometimes to run in families but can also be acquired as a result of a head injury, brain surgery, whiplash and head trauma.



Some of our veterans returning from



serving their country return

having suffered head trauma and find that they are have some or all of the following:

- ✓ light sensitivity
- ✓ impaired depth perception
- ✓ difficulty changing focus
- ✓ difficulty reading
- ✓ difficulty with eyes wanting to wander
- ✓ headaches & fatigue
- ✓ difficulty working under fluorescent lighting
- ✓ unexplained feeling of being overwhelmed.

If you know of someone who has these symptoms, share this article with them and encourage them to learn more about this condition and how Irlen filters can help restore what they have lost.

For more information, go to:

[www.irlenoregon.com](http://www.irlenoregon.com)

or

[www.irlen.com](http://www.irlen.com)

To set an appointment for an Irlen Screening, Irlen Examination and Neuropsychological Assessment, call Dr. Rory F. Richardson at 541-994-4462.

## Rory F. Richardson, Ph.D., FICPPM

Dr. Richardson is a licensed psychologist and Certified Irlen Diagnostician specializing in psychological and neuropsychological assessment and treatment for children, adolescents and adults. For more information about Dr. Richardson's practice, go to [www.drrory.net](http://www.drrory.net).

