



**Wednesday April 5, 2017**

Greetings! ,

In Munich, this Haflinger came to me with the label that he needed four people to hold him while one person tried to mount. The first time my rider Adrian got on, he blasted away. After some consistent schooling, he would present himself to the mounting block and allow the rider to get on without moving a foot. It felt fantastic! Next stop Elmshorn: <https://www.tourneen.com/de/Special-Events/Monty-Roberts-2017-Noch-einmal-in-Deutschland-Der-Mann-der-mit-den-Pferden-spricht.html>



## Question

Hi, my name is Sophie and I'm currently in my second to last year of high school. I was

wondering, do you class what you do as natural horsemanship?  
I'm hoping to do a project on the pros and cons of traditional versus natural horsemanship next year.

## Answer

Let me attempt to help you by explaining that there is no such thing on the face of this earth as natural horsemanship. The nature of the horse is to live on vast open grassy areas. They are flight animals living in family groups. Horses are not only constructed to live as herbivores but they also have a mindset which includes only two goals for their life.

Goal #1 is to survive and Goal #2 is to reproduce. Nature has constructed Equus to be hyper-vigilant with acute hearing, eyesight and the ability to smell the potentials for predation. For us to catch the horse, remove him from the wide open areas and isolate him away from his family is as unnatural as anything could be.

To put a halter on a horse is unnatural. The same goes for the saddle, the lead rope and certainly for the human body. The knowing horseman will take into consideration that we are interfering with nature so as to create an animal which will partner with us for any given discipline without hesitation or refusal. The question is how do we do that.

It should be understood that traditional horsemanship took place for 6000 years. Virtually all traditional horsemanship included large measures of violence. It was typically called 'breaking the horse'. This was often conducted by tying the horse's head to a fixed object and then creating actions through stimulus referred to as "sacking out."

The fact is, these actions often worked. The horse's will to fight was broken. They did what the horseman wanted them to do, not necessarily because they wanted to, but because they were afraid not to. Champions were created with the traditional methods but remember they only had to compete with other individuals that were trained the same.

The evidence of these actions go back as far as carvings in the cave. These facts progressed through books written in several languages dating back to the time of Xenophon about 431 BC. I was born in 1935 and I saw traditional horsemanship embracing the descriptions I have given you all around me.

In the modern world there is very little chance for horses to roam the grassy plains in their family groups. It is foolish to believe that we could simply just release them, take down the fences and let them run wild. I believe that horses should be used by human beings creating a partnership, not a slave-master relationship.

It is my opinion that we can live with horses without violence and with proper communication we can cause these wonderful animals to want to do what we are asking of them. I firmly believe that my concepts are responsible for producing dozens of champions without the use of violence of any kind. This is my life's goal.

Is it natural horsemanship? Many people would say it is. I would term it to be non-violent horsemanship designed to create a partnership, always to request and never to demand. I am still traveling the world in an attempt to convince traditional horsemen to reject violence and learn my methods. The world is changing quite rapidly.

Sincerely,



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## MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE

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This online video series shows Martin Clunes and Monty working together to build a horse's trust. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free and fun methods now.



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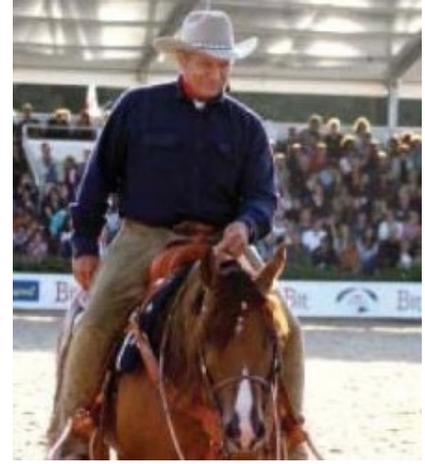
### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Germany** April 7: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Elmshorn

**Germany** April 9: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Redefin

**Germany** April 20: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Dorsten

- Germany** April 22: Monty Roberts Germany Tour in Alsfeld
- Hungary** April 30: Monty Roberts Hungary Demonstration in Kaposvár
- USA** May 13: Night of Inspiration with Monty in California
- USA** July 10 to 21: Gentling Wild Horses California
- USA** July 31 to August 4: Monty's Special Training



[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

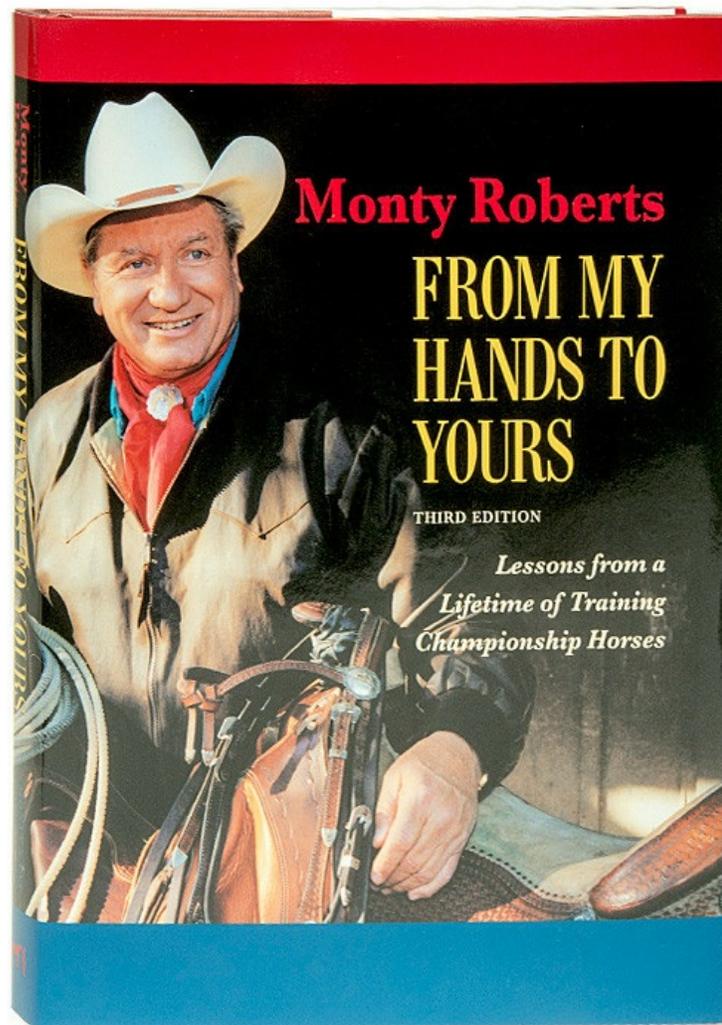
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## **THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER**

April 3 to 21, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Advanced Certification Course</u></a>
May 6 to 7, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Horsemanship 101</u></a>
May 8 to 11, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Join-Up Course</u></a>
May 12 to 13, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Long Lining Course</u></a>
May 19 to 21, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Horse Sense and Healing</u></a>
May 22 to June 2, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Advanced Exam</u></a>
June 3 to 4, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Kids' Course</u></a>
June 24 to 25, 2017	<a href="#"><u>Kids' Course</u></a>

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE](#)

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## **ONLINE REVIEW: FROM MY HANDS TO YOURS BOOK**

"I found Monty's textbook to be helpful and fascinating." Cliff O., online customer

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**MONTY'S PRINCIPLES  
HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE**



I owe you literally everything. I don't know where I would be with my Chestnut Thoroughbred Mare without Join-Up.  
~ C.J. Goldsmith

## **MONTY'S CHALLENGE**

Test yourself each week as I challenge you to answer the question below. I mean this. Sit down and write an answer. Don't wait for my answer next week. If you have been reading my Weekly Questions and Answers for the last six months, you should be in a position to do this. Send your answer to my team at: [askmonty@montyroberts.com](mailto:askmonty@montyroberts.com)

Why should you bother? Because it will help you focus. There is probably a comparable question in your life that needs answering... or will be. If you can gain insight into how to go about answering a practical question that is loosely related to your problem, this exercise will help you answer your nagging question. Then read my answer. I want all of my students to learn to be better trainers than me. That's good for you and good for horses!

~ Monty

## **NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION**

I'm having problems teaching my horse to stand still. When I move away from his side to stand in front, he walks forward as well, as this is what we teach. Is there a vocal or physical cue that I'm missing to ensure my horse understand the difference between walk forward and stand still?

## HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Certified Monty Roberts Instructor Miguel Lupiano trained horses in a traditional world until he attended a Monty Roberts clinic in California. Now he works with horses and children in a in a very Join-Up way. And Tracey Hawkins is raising her horses and her kids in a close relationship to the land and the family business they love.

[EPIISODE 85 | LISTEN HERE](#)



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**FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

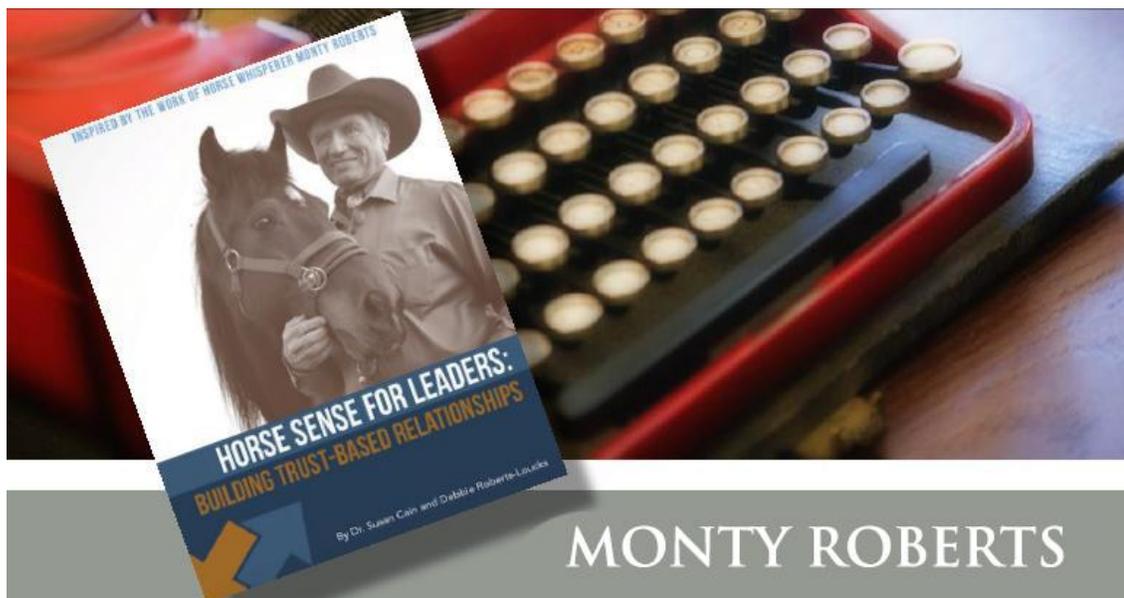


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. Join-Up offers everyone an effective tool to rediscover themselves through the eyes of the horse. This self-awareness exercise deals effectively with emotional trauma, anti-social behavior and withdrawal, anger, stress, combat stress and even Post Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI). [READ MORE](#)



May 19 to 21 is Monty's next Horse Sense and Healing workshop. For more information, go to: <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>

## HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



Buying Monty's book, [Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships](#), is another great way to support Monty in his efforts. We have a

[Paperback Version](#) and a [Color Version](#).

Paperback \$9.99 <http://amzn.to/1jqmgBc>

Color Version \$19.99 <http://amzn.to/1h31Psj>

"Are leaders born or made? Follow the life of New York Times Best Selling Author and Horse Whisperer, Monty Roberts in the book Horse Sense for Leaders. Discover how Monty's life events shape his leadership style. Then, take our Trust Based Leadership Assessment to find out your own leadership style, and how to capitalize on your own unique leadership style."

~ Dr. Susan Cain, Corporate Learning Institute



## REDUCING VIOLENCE THROUGH WORKSHOPS WITH HORSES IN ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

Lead-Up International (Affiliate of Join-Up International) is a program based on workshops with horses in which youth at risk are introduced to calm and humane ways of interacting with horses. Participants discover non-violence for themselves and develop a new sense of peaceful leadership.

[READ MORE](#)



## FIND A MONTY ROBERTS CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

Find [a Monty Roberts Certified Instructor](#) near you. All courses offered by certified instructors give students effective tools to communicate using the horse's own natural language, forming a partnership based on trust and communication rather than dominance. Visit the certified instructor web page here:

<http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/>



**HRTV**



 Forward to a Friend

