

GOD 5. Humans have created God in their own image. The first God in most people's life is their mother or father - we acknowledge how important positive role models are in children's formative years. Later on we often see persons of influence as some sort of god-figures, the people we admire: Philosophers, writers, teachers, revolutionaries, leaders, artists, prophets, film and sports stars and other celebrities. From there it was a small step to create God in their image: A great, authoritative, put-on-a-pedestal and out-of-reach figure.

*Austrian Sigmund Freud (1856 - 1939),
neurologist, founder of psychoanalysis:
"It would be nice if God existed - all
caring and promising life after death.
But since that's exactly what we crave,
it is obvious we have created him."*

The article Born believers - how your brain creates God (New Scientist, 7 February 2009) states: "Religion is an artefact of the wiring in our brain - it is a consequence of how our brains work. "The mind has an overdeveloped sense of cause and effect, which primes us to see purpose and design everywhere; and people expect their God's mind to work very much like their own mind."

If birds had a God, she'd be feathered.

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