Parts of the human visual cortex generate a characteristic “N-170” EEG response to human faces, as opposed to other visual stimuli like houses or places, indicating a specialized neural system for face processing. In individuals with a history of delayed surgery for bilateral congenital cataracts, no specialized response to faces was observed. By contrast, the N-170 was normal in developmental cataract reversal individuals suggesting that high level visual areas need early visual input to fully differentiate.