

The Return of Stick or Switch

You're on a quiz program, and you're asked to choose between three doors. Behind one is a wonderful prize; the other two are empty. You choose, for example, Door One. The MC opens (for example) Door Two, showing it to be empty. You are offered a choice: Stick to your original choice--Door One--or switch to Door Three. Are your chances of winning better if you stick or switch? Or doesn't it make a difference?

1) Explain your answer! Give evidence! This problem became famous because many people--even some professional mathematicians--got it wrong by just "thinking about it." So a good idea is to run some experiments and keep track of your results.

This problem was popularized by Marilyn vos Savant.