

Re: First Causes

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"JPL Verhey" <matterDELminds@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:4143a1eb\$0\$62371\$5fc3050@dreader2.news.tiscali.nl...

- > *It could be I have a misunderstanding of what is meant with*
- > *epiphenomenalism. I take it to mean that consciousness, awareness, is*
- > *considered having no causal impact on anything we can observe, i.e. of*
- > *what can be 'the content' of any of our experiences. From having no*
- > *impact on a the orbit of the moon when we look at it (I do agree), to*
- > *having no impact on reflexes of body movement like hitting your breaks*
- > *when a person suddenly appears in front of your car (I agree), and*
- > *reflexes of emotion and thought such as when a sudden smell can trigger*
- > *emotions/moods and memories/thoughts.*
- >
- > *It is, indeed, thinkable that every thought, emotion and behaviour that*
- > *we are aware of, are reflexive processes and that the awareness of it*
- > *all is truly epiphenomenal. Volition/free will might be utter illusion,*
- > *but perhaps useful. Somebody who is convinced that volition is an utter*
- > *illusion, might think, feel and behave differently than somebody who*
- > *believes the opposite.*

A comment from my favorite (and far from inEPT) "Evolutionary
(neuro)Psychological Type" perspective:

It could be that what consciousness – both (at the level of) feeling or
emotional consciousness and (at the level of) cognitive or
language-associated/dependent consciousness – is good for, and hence why it
has tended to be "naturally selected for" (whilst of course being
fundamentally physically possible due to, obviously in some sense existing,
fundamental physical laws) could be that it promotes survival by acting as a
glue for social cohesion.

More specifically, the ability (shared amongst near enough phylogenetically
related individuals) to feel that *_oneself_* is part of a group or society (a
selectively environment-including whilst self-referential brain-state) will
trump a competing troupe of less emotionally and cognitively aware
genophenotypes any day!

And, BTW, I share your attitude to volition/free will.

With regards,

Peter

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Partly inspired by MAD (cold war shaming acronym), I arrived at EPT [e.g: eclectically Explanatory perversely Pert philosophical Terminology] and by concePTual lenses/tools saw/grasped how and why AEVASIVE preoccupations (personalites) normally preclude making in-dEPTh sense (of themselves).

In the acronym for Ambiad advantageously Evolved Vexed Attention Selection (System) Involving Various Endorphins, AS(S) stand for how we think/emote/behave based on our individual repertoire of competing {by mutual inhibition) whilst cheered and booed {by current and past environmental influences) "attention modules", & AE refer to the didactic division of the Evolutionary Pressure Totality into relevant dialectic lifetime juxtapositions of:

1. Opportunity
2. Adversity - here especially SHITS [Synaptic Hibernation Imploring {naturally selective AND 'motivating' of selective unconsciousness) Traumatic {also tardily so) Situations] normally repercussively retained as CURSES type memory (aka "Pain", à la Janov)