

# Consciousness and Human Potential Argument

1. Premise 1: Babies are not considered fully conscious until they are around 3 or 4 years old.
2. Premise 2: Despite this, society treats babies as valuable and deserving of care, recognizing their potential for consciousness.
3. Premise 3: Philosophical insights (e.g., Chalmers, Nagel) support the moral significance of potential consciousness.
4. Premise 4: Ethical theories emphasize the moral obligation to protect beings with potential sentience, including unborn children, AI, and animals.
5. Premise 5: Practical frameworks and AI tools must be developed to assess, protect, and guide entities with potential consciousness.
6. Premise 6: Historical and cultural practices demonstrate the enduring importance of valuing potential consciousness across time and societies.
7. Premise 7: A universal ethical framework balancing cultural diversity and universal principles is essential for addressing potential consciousness in a globalized world.

## Conclusion:

Recognizing and protecting potential consciousness fosters ethical consistency, societal compassion, and preparedness for future moral and technological challenges.