What is Consciousness?

When one looks up what the group called Project Consciousness is all about, one finds the above question. As such, I find this group as a forum to share scientific information and our own ideas on what Consciousness is. Therefore, I would like to share my own ideas (again) on the subject for your consideration.

After much research and reflection, IMHO, I propose consciousness as an objective reality of quantum neuro dynamics whose manifestations are conveyed along the cooperative activity between the cognitive, sensorial, and volitional faculties. As such, consciousness would be an attribute inherent to the individual nature solely intrinsic to human beings.

Please note that in order to conceptualize the ‘reality’ of consciousness as being herein proposed, it was deemed essential to mark a terminological distinction between conscious and consciousness. Where, the definition of conscious, as the state of being awake and aware of one’s surrounding circumstances should be disassociated from the definition of consciousness, as the state of having awareness of one’s own thoughts, feelings and actions (in accordance to one’s perceptions of the surrounding circumstances). In other words: while one can be conscious without having consciousness, one cannot have consciousness without being conscious.

Upon scrutiny, the above definition of consciousness was discerned to concretize the state of having awareness of one’s own thoughts, feelings and actions with that of having an “inner sense of self-awareness” (the recognition of that awareness). Where, self-hood -as their resulting integration- would specifically refer to the means by which to recognize one’s own individual identity; being an individual distinct from other individuals and separate from the environment.

The earliest philosophical conceptualization of consciousness found to resonate with the above arguments was found to be its definition by John Locke in 1690, as: “The perception of what passes in one’s own mind”.

It should also be considered that two premises were found to be indispensably required in order to duly validate the phenomenon of Consciousness as an objective reality. The following elements were determined to suitably abide by both premises:

1st premise: Its existence would have to be supervenient on the existence of physical forms.

The existence of Consciousness would be supervenient on the progressive brain diversity of cognitive, sensorial, and volitional physical forms herein termed as “neural network constructs”.

2nd premise: Its existence would have to emerge due to complexity of brain operations.

The existence of Consciousness would indeed emerge due to the progressive brain complexity of those functional processes/operations of quantum neuro dynamics between cognitive, sensorial, and volitional neural network constructs.

Along this order, the presence of the cooperative activity between the cognitive, sensorial, and volitional faculties herein proposed as the manifestation of consciousness (especially when quantum theory/mechanics as components of the underlying dynamics of neural binding have been associated to the ‘Unity of Consciousness’), was found to have been -so far- scientifically identified to manifest as specific resonance oscillations in brain activity, solely audible along high frequencies in the gamma band (gamma waves oscillating at 40Hz); these resonance oscillations were recently proposed to be entrained by both the frequency and amplitude modulation in the stimulation/activity. These have also been proposed as neural correlates of consciousness between the spatial structure of correlation patterns and temporal oscillations in brain dynamics.

It should then be considered that given the fact that one’s cognitive and volitional faculties do not begin to develop until +/- 3 yrs. old of age, the development of consciousness would accordingly ensue at +/- 7 yrs. old of age (the Age of Reason). In addition, there are four age time-frames associated with the significant development and maturation of human brain structures and faculties. These being: Birth-7, 7-14, 14-21 and 21-28 yrs. old of age. Therefore, it would be important to identify any perceptible changes in those specific resonance oscillations conveyed along the cooperative activity between the cognitive, sensorial, and volitional faculties in each one time-frame, in order to furthermore sustain the feasibility of the above arguments.

In summary, why would respected scientists propose that the complementation of Quantum Mechanics and Classical Physics denotes the presence of consciousness in absolutely everything that exists? I beg to differ. What this complementation denotes (IMHO) is the presence of what is known as ‘The Fundamental Order of the Universe’, consensually acknowledged to outline its formation and subsequent evolutionary order. Where, by admitting its reality, infers to concede the existence of its ‘Ordinator’. So that what the consciousness of human beings perceives, is the essence of consciousness of its ‘Ordinator’, denoting the existence of an individual Supreme Being (as both, the Creator of the Universe and of what is known as the Divine Plan of Creation). I understand how difficult this would be for them.

And why are numerous articles on Near Death Experience (NED) included in Project Consciousness? Could it be because they all infer that after one’s physical death, the existence of one’s after life is recognized by the continued presence of one’s consciousness? Where, perhaps, one’s existence as an individual being could be perceived to ultimately bear the essence of God’s existence as an individual Supreme Being.

So, as such, what do we ultimately have? The responsibility to duly assume and educationally implement the utmost significance of our existence as individual beings.

Would love to know your own ideas on what consciousness really is. 