

Review of: "Addiction as a Loss of Inner Freedom"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors present an interesting embedding of addiction in the philosophy of mind. While this approach is interesting, presenting an additional link of addiction to neural processes and consciousness would have been beneficial. Please also consider the subsequent predominantly editorial but important remarks:

- * “instinctive-instinctive-emotional actions” : correct ?
- * Provide references in the paragraphs between “The beauty of a person’s life,” and “illusory peace and escape from reality” to support the description of addicts.
- * Please rephrase, avoiding the repetition: “that bring comfort, that – at the level of sensoric and subjective perception – brings comfort,”
- * “Lore Hühn, considering...”: provide a reference
- * In several places in the text, the authors imply a male addicted subject by usage of male personal pronouns. The authors are asked to rephrase the corresponding sentences using phrases implying both male and female subjects or find a gender-neutral expression. This is not a minor request, since the almost strict usage of masculine expressions is not up-to-date with today’s practice of accepted gender balance. Examples are
 - “which includes his potential to be addicted, and at the same time, his greatest burden”,
 - “gives a person the opportunity to choose his worlds”,
 - “bliss of the means of pleasure is given to him by society, which has an economic interest in him, and, on the contrary, should protect him from himself, depriving him of the right to illusional and false bliss”
 - “An addict cuts to fit his own existence with his own means,”
 - “created in his deceived mind”
 - “for the subject must choose between his instinctive craving”
 - “become the subject of his own project of life, consolidate the balance of two worlds to which he belongs”
 - “If he doesn’t establish that balance of the eager, the aroused, and the law, he becomes the object of his own self, eats his substance”
 - “object of his own means, which he initially controlled as a human being. He becomes a project”
 - “through his own means (experience). By repeating his own illusion, he imposes it on his own cognition”
 - “justification on his path of searching”
 - “intimate conversation with himself”
 - “He takes from the irrational”
 - “presents itself to him as a”

- “he does not accept the incertitude”
- “his subjective and sensual concept of reality becomes his law and maxim through which he reaches”
- “If an addict takes that bliss with him into the outer organized and formal world, he becomes a slave of his wrong choice”
- “up within his ability to present himself”
- “towards his virtual islands of pleasure (biological freedom – bliss, festival) because he has become weak”
- “He cannot rid himself of and kill his predestinations; he cannot grow up. He cannot create prerequisites for a moral, willing conceptualization of a matrix that he will act upon”
- “to soothe his inner disquiet”
- “has set himself, consciously”
- “that burns inside of him”
- “as a flame of craving. When he exits from himself (when he starts recognizing his impotence, i.e., when he starts depersonalizing himself from the identity of an addict – because he understands that he would have burnt out and collapsed in that core of illusions of the unreal that presents itself to him as real freedom), he, in fact, takes the ritual of the illusion. He sees the mean”
- “to the position of losing his identity”
- “gives him a signal to escape”.