

# Review of: "The Evolution of Consciousness Theories"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The "Hard Problem of Consciousness," as coined by philosopher David Chalmers in 1995, refers to the difficulty of explaining why and how we have qualitative personal experiences, or why certain physical processing states in the brain give rise to particular subjective experiences (qualia). This problem contrasts with what he termed the "easy problems" of consciousness, which deal with the mechanisms and processes that enable us to perceive, think, and behave. You have highlighted a crucial aspect of this debate: the transformation of objective information into subjective experience, and the role of awareness in this process. The distinction drawn by the Thalamocortical Theoretical Model (TTM) between awareness and consciousness is interesting and might suggest a need to reframe the "Hard Problem" more specifically around awareness.

The suggestion to rename the "Hard Problem of Consciousness" to the "Hard Problem of Awareness" could be seen as a semantic shift, but this shift doesn't inherently solve the "Hard Problem"; it merely refocuses the discussion. The core issue remains: explaining the transition from objective, physical processes to subjective, qualitative experiences.

The transformation of sensation, memory, and emotion into subjective experiences remains a fundamental mystery, one that lies at the intersection of neuroscience, philosophy, and psychology.

Overall, consciousness remains one of the most profound and intriguing subjects in both science and philosophy, and your article reflects the complexity and depth of this ongoing exploration.