

Review of: "Unfettered Compatibilism"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

As I understand the objectives of Qeios, a critique can include going outside the explicit text of the submission. I therefore would much appreciate the author's view on the comment below on "free will" taken from my recent book, *Philosophy in Reality*, Springer, Cham (Switzerland), 2020.

- Apparent free will exists, but only as an appearance in the conscious mind of an individual in opposition to and because of the unconscious knowledge of the lack of total 'freedom', that is, isolation from other individuals. The issue of compatibility is therefore a false problem; individual responsibility for one's actions *does* exist, but its source does not lie in free will, or the absence of it.
- We are in the presence of a reciprocal mutual instantiation of appearance and reality that corresponds to a contradictorial: appearance and reality, as real processes, can never both be fully actualized at the same time.
- If we as knowers are not totally external to what is known by us, not completely different from it, then we conclude that there are other knowers that are part of our known and *vice versa*.
- The source of our dignity *is* then in ourselves as knowers, but if we avoid the error of solipsism, the origin of the sense of moral responsibility can only come from the relation to other knowers, in other words, all human beings, and by extension, other beings. *A contrario*, one cannot find responsibility in oneself as an isolated agent. Since we are both 'not-other' *and* 'other', a self-interest argument for morality holds.

My feeling is thus that the entire discussion of free will or the lack of it takes place only in relation to interactions between human beings. One can argue about the process of deciding what beer to order, but this is trivial. If the author sees any merit in the above, I would welcome his including it in the paper. However, this is not a condition for my approval as is. the above notwithstanding, it seems original, authoritative and complete.