

Review of: "Social context of the brain and law: Is consciousness social?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to read and comment on your work. I really enjoyed reading it and I found it quite interesting in terms of its content and main arguments. The issue of consciousness is very important and lately has attracted many scholars from various scientific fields. There are some really robust arguments used for the development of this paper. Beyond that, there are some issues that I think the author should consider and revise this work.

1. Literature Update: with few exceptions most of the references used are dated. I suggest to the author to search in more recently published articles that they can enhance the arguments developed. Some suggestions are:
 - a. Grossberg, S. (2021). *Conscious mind, resonant brain: how each brain makes a mind* Oxford University Press.
 - b. Hohwy, J., and Michael, J. (2017). "16 Why should any body have a self? The subject's matter: Self-consciousness and the body," in *The Subject Matter: Self-Consciousness and the Body*, eds F. De Vignemont, and A. J. Smith (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press).
 - c. Koch, C. (2019). *The feeling of life itself: why consciousness is widespread but can't be computed* Mit Press.
 - d. Melloni, L., Mudrik, L., Pitts, M., & Koch, C. (2021). Making the hard problem of consciousness easier. *Science*, 372(6545), 911-912.
 - e. Nani, A., Manuella, J., Mancuso, L., Liloia, D., Costa, T., & Cauda, F. (2019). The neural correlates of consciousness and attention: two sister processes of the brain. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 13, 1169.
 - f. Psychogios A and Dimitriadis N (2021) Brain-Adjusted Relational Leadership: A Social-Constructed Consciousness Approach to Leader-Follower Interaction. *Front. Psychol.* 12:672217. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.672217
 - g. Rahimian, S. (2021). Consciousness in solitude: is social interaction really a necessary condition? *Front. Psychol.* 12:376. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.630922
2. Un-supported arguments: there some critical arguments that seem to be authors option rather than thoroughly supported by academic sources. Some examples are given below but there are more in the article. I suggest the author to support with additional references in academic literature these arguments:
 - a. Example 1: "Any action at the observable level is a conscious act, however, human nature to look for the cause of those actions further decides whether those actions were conscious or unconscious." _ REF???
 - b. Example 2: "But this kind of assumption is generally mocked and rejected in law as it does not give a reason to requestion the responsibility." _ REF??

- c. Example 3: “Consciousness matters when it is well defined and measured, through the brain, non-verbal cues, or whatever language can connect to it.” _ REF??

3. Conceptual Analysis

The way that you have developed your paper is semi-clear, at least to my understanding. I need to say that I was little bit confused what this article tries to claim about consciousness and brain science and Law. Maybe your last argument about a multidisciplinary (socio-psycho-bio) understanding of consciousness is the most important at the whole paper. I would suggest though to enhance this further. There is a growing literature criticising the single-discipline understanding of issues of human behaviour and action suggesting a more socio-psycho-bio perspective. You could actually be based more on this literature enhancing your arguments. At the end of the day though you need to suggest something more concrete in relation to Law (where I am not expert to be honest). Maybe you may think of developing a conceptual model based on propositions. In other words, the development of the aspects of your paper in a concrete framework based on proposition would provide a different value to the paper. I think that you need to revise your paper and try to re-synthesise it.

All in all, I think that this work is very interesting and promising and that my comments and suggestions above provide some clear paths of improvement.