

From: Deepak Chopra <[REDACTED]>

To: Michael Shermer <[REDACTED]>, Leonard current email Mlodinow
<[REDACTED]>

Subject: From a physicist friend

Date: Mon, 02 Jan 2017 13:14:10 +0000

FYI

Responding to another physicist who said "None of you seem capable of rational objective critical thinking on this topic of consciousness as a physical phenomenon."

Response

"That's because it isn't, and everyone here (apparently save one) is rational and objective enough to understand that. Physical phenomena, and phenomena in general, are ultimately perceptual in nature and subject to observational replication - that's why they call physics an empirical science. But consciousness is not.

Consciousness cannot be objectively, replicably observed. Its putative physical correlates, including brains and behaviors, can be replicably observed, and it can be subjectively apprehended by any conscious entity. But that's it. Anyone who denies this understands neither physics nor consciousness, and has a severe logic problem to boot, inasmuch as he/she cannot properly distinguish between cognition and perception or internal and external state.

This isn't "polemics". This is just the way it is. Stop overreaching.

Deepak Chopra

2013 Costa Del Mar Road
Carlsbad, CA 92013

New Book: [REDACTED]

