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[From Sentience to (EU) Welfare Legislation]

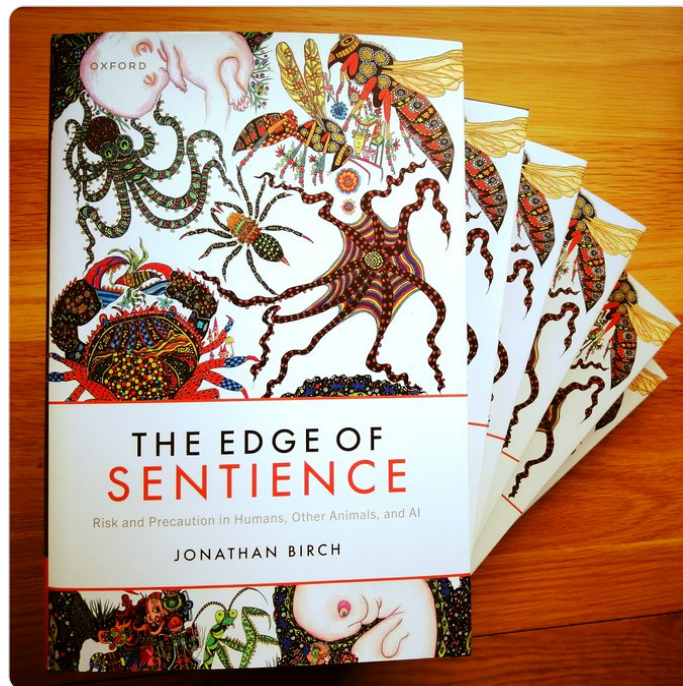
A welcome & important initiative, as we are living in an excessive competitive/predatorial world which consider living beings, including ourselves, as objects or "commodities/tokens". Its a necessary but sad *ethical* observation.



Jonathan Birch ✓
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I've read many books about consciousness/sentience in which the importance of the questions for policy, ethics and law is mentioned at the beginning (as motivation) but then put to one side. Four years ago I set out to write a book that would be "inside out": it would put the... [Show more](#)



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But this necessary legislation (vs personal ethic) to contain ultra-liberal non-ethical behaviors has a *non-neutral epistemological consequence* : driving us inexorably toward "rule-based" & more and more complex collective cognitivist conceptions difficult to apply effectively.

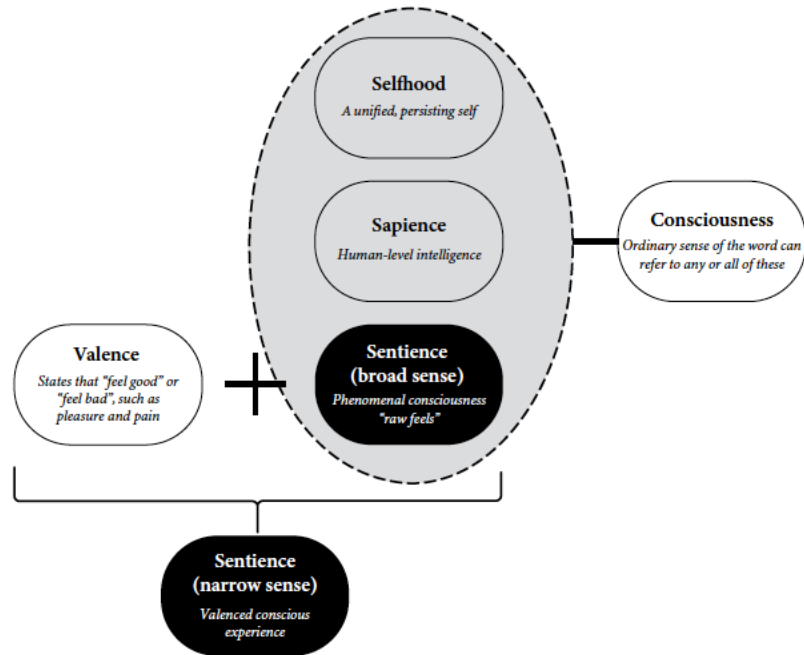


Fig. 2.1 Mapping different senses of 'sentience' and 'consciousness'. Sentience in a broad sense is the capacity for conscious experience, where 'phenomenal consciousness' is the pertinent sense of consciousness. Sentience in a narrower sense adds the further condition that at least some of the conscious experiences must be valenced. In neither sense does sentience imply sapience or selfhood.
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The same rule-based cognitivist conception of classical science propositional logic normativity, which have been then concretized into automatic machines during the "information revolution" (in fact a transduction of processual communication into formal "information-out-there"),

leading to the actual democratic tension between implicit and fast-evolving techno-normativity vs explicit/public slow legislative power, and so toward a synthetic algorithmic governmentality (Rouvroy). Both share a necessary but no more sufficient common conception: cognitivism

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