

THE CONSCIOUS BICAMERAL MIND

Emilio Gómez

Granada University

INTUITION AND INTENTIONS ←-----→ RATIONAL UTILITARISM

	Right hemisphere	Left hemisphere	
	Theory Of Mind (TOM)	language	Cortex: Access consciousness (internal voice and mental images)
Union of emotion (bottom-up) with TOM (top-down) produces empathy ----- Union of physiological patterns (bottom-up) with emotions labels (top down) produces visceral self	Basic emotions	Prosody	Limbic system: Phenomenological consciousness (Qualia)
	Peripheral pattern of physiological activation	Ballistic thinking (origin of contents of internal voice)	Subcortex: bodily self

The system acts like an unity (mind). Information runs top-down (cognition) and bottom up (body states) and from left to right (post hoc explanations, the linguistic interpreter) and from right to left (emotions, empathy and TOM included in verbal descriptions).

One stimulus produces cortical (slow exteroception) and subcortical activation (fast activation of the autonomous nervous system). Both ways converge (slow way and top-down emotional regulation with fast way and emotional activation when the bodily pattern is perceived or interoception) in the limbic system. This convergence produces phenomenological consciousness. The middle layer detects conflicts or congruency between the exteroception and the interoception.