

This essay discusses what is meant by the mind body problem. I am going to identify key developments in experimental psychology and show knowledge of the development of different experimental techniques over previous time and the ethical issues associated with them. I will also demonstrate the understanding of the modern integration of multiple perspectives within experimental psychology. The mind body problem is defined as the relationship between the mind and body, M, Bunge describes the mind and the body as two different entities on the same footing. The mind focuses on mental processes, consciousness and thought whereas the body focuses on the physical, health, brain and neurons. The two are categorised as substance dualism which is a variety of dualism in philosophy of mind which states that there are two existences, the mind and physical are separate substances with independent existence. It is how they interact with one another, in a positive or even a negative way. There have been many arguments in history of psychology and philosophy about the question of whether they are separate to one another or the same thing.

R. Gross says that British philosophers fall into different categories, Rene Descartes and Plato are nativism. Locke and others fall as empiricism. Nativism believe that we are born with everything that we know and it's already within the mind and body whereas empiricism states that we are a blank slate and we learn throughout our lives with experiences. This has a big influence in the mind body problem because Locke the empiricism says that we should not try to understand the mind body problem because it doesn't matter. Whereas Rene Descartes states that the mind can influence the brain but the brain can not influence the mind. R, Descartes, 1989 said that individuals are not aware of any subjects that act instantly in our soul that the body which it is joined, we should recognise that passions within the soul are sent from the body. This means that Rene Descartes believes that they are connected and that the actions in the soul are usually from our body. An example from Rene Descartes 1989 is that when a body is dead the mind and soul also goes which is the cause

for the body to be cold and motionless but the physical only dies due to a decay of a part of the body not the soul. which argues that they are connected because when there is no more physical there is no more mind or soul left in that body and he states the souls leaves. An argument towards this could be that Moon, 1995 stated that human beings consisted of two unlike substances which could not exist in unity. The mind body problem had prevented the development of medical science, for christian views the body and soul were one but diseases were attributing to non material forces such as personal/ collective wrongdoing and for the body to go to heaven it had to be into one which means the body and soul had to be together. (Walker, 1955). Resulting to this Descartes through the mind body dualism demythologised body and handed over it's study to medical science and by isolating the mind the mind body dualism denied its significance in individuals experience of health.

According to M, Bunge the mind body problem has two main answers the mind that perceives, desires and develops thought processes the mind that has soul and spirit and the other is the brain. According to the former the mind is the immaterial entity where all mental processes, ideas and thoughts would be and according to the second answer the mind is not a thing but is a set of brain functions or activities. Most believers such as the psychophysical dualists think mind has an existence apart from the brain but in the other hand those who hold the mental is corporeal (neural) function are called psychophysical monists. The two believers think they have solutions to the mind body problem as they both have a doctrines.

Jerry A. Fodor, 1981 state that traditional philosophies of mind can be divided into two broad categories, the dualist theory and the mentalist theory. The dualist is the non physical substance and the second one is the mentalist where mental is not distinct from the physical. Some mentalists called behaviorists maintain the talk of mental causes can be eliminated

from the language of psychology in talk of the environmental stimuli and behavioural responses, whereas materialist contend that there are mental causes and that they are uniform to neurophysical events in the brain. Since functionalism recognises that mental particulars may be physical it has the idea that mental causations is a species of physical causations. In many words functionalism accepts the materialist solution to the mind body problem. It has a possibility for the functionalist to assert both that the mental properties are defined in terms of relations and interactions of mind and body. Resulting that it seems that functionalism does capture the best of the materialism. It is possible for the functionalist to assert both that mental properties are typically defined in terms of their relations and that interactions of mind and body are typically causal in however robust a notion of causality is required by psychological explanations

Matson, I, W 1966 states that the mental is nothing but the physical, and it is nothing but obvious that they are intimately linked together. This suggests that the mind body problem is not a problem at all because he states that sensations can not be identical to the sensations of physical objects in the world such as trees and vibrating air. He also states that the soul is a vital part whenever there is living or a corpse. This shows that Matson. W believes that the mind is forever with the body in living or death . R. Gross states that mental processes are linked with physical processes in the nervous system as being similar when although they are different but they do the same thing within the brain such as when thinking you do what maybe your thoughts tell you and also if your brain is thinking to move limbs it does it without even thinking about it. So it shows that they both have processes they have to get through mentally and physically. Broadbent, 1981 agreed that there humans could not have a mind without a brain for example we can't believe that the same neurophysical mechanism will be used by two different humans and show the same activity because there are many different

ways a task can be performed dependent on the individual. Another example of why the mind body problem is not always a problem is that when a person has brain damage to many degrees from biological reason or an accident the person does still remain the same just maybe different physically and some changes to the personality but their soul will remain the same to a certain extent. The physical side of things will change the way they think for example they may show frustration by not being able to complete a task or something they used to but the physical body changes the thought process of them being frustrated or angry at the physical body because they can not complete what they want to, this does show a glimpse of a connection because the person will always remain the same inside.

To conclude this essay it has shown that the mind body problem has many different arguments towards the mind body problem being one and also separate. Rene Descartes has a big influence on this topic within psychology, a demonstration of his work has been put forward greatly, that shown that he believes that it is together within some of the research that has been provided but there are arguments that have changed it such as medical science. In this essay there has been a great understanding of important developments that have been met by showing the different theories and arguments. A knowledge has been provided of the development of different techniques over time with ethical issues associated with them. There has been multiple perspectives recognised from experimental psychology. This essay has also shown that the mind body problem is not a problem for everyone or every psychologist that had questioned it in past history because research has shown that many people has said such as Matson, I, W that the mind and body are not without one another because how can something non physical influence something that is physical

without any interactions for example when someone is very hurt by someone or something they physically feel pain and that shows that the mind and the body is together in some way.

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