

# “The Givens” of Free Will

By: Ben Gufford



Here is “Mr. Will Givens”. I title this face jug around concepts and debates over free will and what I like to call “the givens” within the context of any potential free will we possess. The expression on this face jug is quite the shock and awe one might feel to understand how limited human free will might potentially be. It is true that we are bound by our human system and the physical laws extending out into space/time. But beneath this structure, we might feel like we have some sliver of will over ourselves and the physical space/time rules (cosmology, physics, etc). I’ve toyed with concepts tossed around in Nietzsche’s book *Will To Power* and considered my basic understanding of any potential free will as being what I call “The Givens”. We have the will to give in, give out, give up or give way. In the context of free will these are “the givens” or that is to say the human gift. To give in

would assume conformity. To give out would be to tire or burn out for a time. To give up would be to quit or accept defeat or death. To give way would be to serve human intuition as the quantum entangled synchronous mind of nature leads it.

Contrasting any sliver of human free will is current research providing evidence that we may not possess free will, that is to say in the contextual description we currently hold over the human mind within the larger mind of nature as Bernardo Kastrup describes it. Bernardo states that to be free humanity has to grasp that we are not free. This might constitute a paradox and suggest that we are servants to the greater mind of nature. Other research offers clues that our mental responses happen nanoseconds before we are meta-aware or meta-conscious of these responses. Scientific evidence points to a tiny delay between human responses and awareness of such responses.

Perception continues to lay the basis for any idea of free will in that meta-awareness accounts for only a small portion of mind awareness within the polarized human system by which consciousness projects into space/time. Free will in relation to perception, awareness, space, and time is fluid and as malleable as the clay I use to form my face jugs. It is interesting to think of these words only being part of a minimal amount of description needed to grasp the totality of the universal space/time language by which consciousness speaks to itself to gain greater and greater awareness and clarity of itself. Stuart Hameroff posits that these universal linguistic patterns of consciousness strive toward pleasure to achieve greater awareness. I feel so much as to think that asymmetric balance might be the means by which consciousness gains greater awareness of itself. This is to suggest that consciousness is seeking balance for focus so that it may gain greater awareness of itself.