

Animals angry - not angry 6

Q15

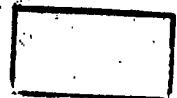
Carrighar, S. War is not in our Genes.
Man and Aggression, M.F. Ashley-Montagu
(Ed.) Oxford University Press, New York
1968. p. 39.

Most laymen would think at once of predatory attacks on prey for food: the pursuit, the pounce, the kill. The biological definition, however, excludes this kind of slaughter because it involves no malice. A wolf bringing down an ill or aged caribou (a strong caribou can outrun a wolf) is no more angry than we are when we buy meat at the butcher's shop. He is merely hungry, as are other predators when prey is there and vulnerable.

Nor is there any true aggression, any malice, between members of different species going about their separate ways in the wilderness they share. They seem to recognize that each has different needs and perhaps, in their inarticulate way, they even recognize that other species have rights. On a path used by many

or at a water hole or salt lick, the weaker and smaller animals await their turn, letting the stronger go first without argument.

d. 12. 1965



Carrighar, S. War is Not in our Genes.
~~Man and Aggression~~, M.F. Ashley-Montagu
(Ed.) Oxford University Press, New York
1968. p. 47.

As Lorenze describes them: / "Steiniger put brown rats from different localities into a large enclosure which provided them with completely natural living conditions. At first the individual animals seemed afraid of each other; they were not in an aggressive mood, but they bit each other if they met by chance, particularly if two were driven towards each other along one side of the enclosure, so that they collided at speed." (Most biologists, incidentally, would not call the conditions provided by any enclosure as "completely natural" - especially not if it were so small that individuals collided when racing along the fence.) Steiniger's rats soon began to attack one another and fought until all but one pair were killed. The descendants of that pair formed a clan, which subsequently slaughtered every strange rat introduced into

the habitat.

During the same years that this study was being conducted, John B. Calhoun in Baltimore was also investigating the behavior of rats. There were 15 rats in F. Steiniger's original population; 14 in Calhoun's - also strangers to one another. But Calhoun's enclosure was 16 times larger than Steiniger's and more favorable in other ways: "harborages" were provided for rats pursued by hostile associates (such refuges would probably exist in the wild), and all Calhoun's rats were identified by markings. For 27 months, from a tower in the center of the large area, the movements of all the individual rats were recorded. After a few fights while getting acquainted, they separated into two clans, neither of which tried to eliminate the other. There was a good deal of crossing back and forth unchallenged - so often by some individuals that they were dubbed messengers.

Property of the Erich Fromm Document Center. For personal use only. Citation or publication of material prohibited without express written permission of the copyright holder.
Eigentum des Erich-Fromm-Dokumentationszentrums. Nutzung nur für persönliche Zwecke.
Veröffentlichungen - auch von Teilen - bedürfen der schriftlichen Erlaubnis des Rechteinhabers.



no sadism.

Carrighar, S. War is not in our Genes.
Man and Aggression, M.F. Ashley Montagu
(Ed.) Oxford University Press, New York
1968. p.49/50

Perhaps that is the way - culturally rather than
genetically - that human aggressiveness arose. As for
sadism, something no animal displays, it is my belief
that the trait is psychotic. (In the case of cats'
treatment of mice, research indicates that it is pure
play - though useful as practice of hunting skills.
The cat probably does not realise that it is torturing
the mice.)

♂ dominance ♀

Hall, K.R.L. Aggression in Monkey and Ape Societies.
The Natural History of Aggression
J.D. Carthy & F.J. Ebling (Eds.) New
York: The Academic Press, 1964. p.56

The overall picture of group organization in these
animals is of a sensitive balancing of forces, the
balance being achieved by the social learning of
individuals in the group from time of birth to adult-
hood, so that infringements of the group norm are
rare. When they occur, they may be severely
punished if the victim is caught. Even changes in
dominance rank amongst the males are reported to
occur as a consequence of persistent harrying rather
than by fighting. In other words, physical prowess
may not be actually tested, the confident usurping
animal achieving his end simply by some of the forms
of threat display and moving towards the other animal.
What exactly is the social context from which such a
usurpment takes place is not yet known. From the

Japanese macaque studies, it is likely that the
confident attitude of the to-be-dominant male is
engendered by his being the offspring of a female
who is high in the female hierarchy and hence is
closely associated with the already dominant males.

