



# Female Attacks on Males

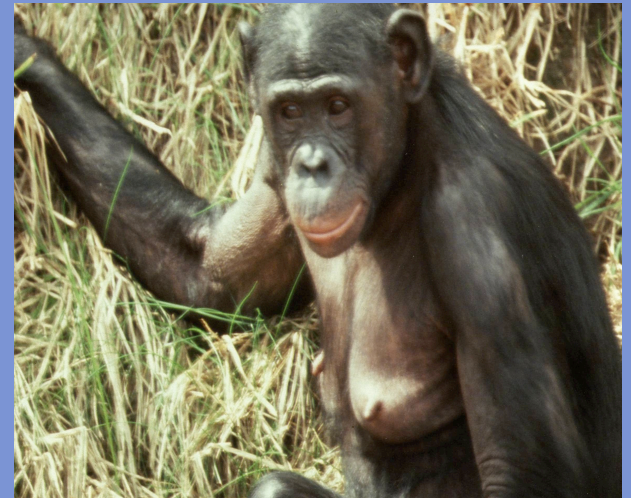
- “The legend of the Amazons is a mythologized projection of the male yearning for female aggression, beginning with the hope that his mother will fiercely protect him and maturing into his bitter regret that society has handed him the active role in courtship and mating, a role he is apt to botch” John Updike 1996



# Bonobos

- Are an interesting but specialized anomaly
- Are more similar to chimps than typically acknowledged
- Chimps are more like bonobos

- “irritable”
- “troublesome”
- “daring”
- “co-dominant”
- “almost co-dominant”
- “appropriately respectful”



- “tolerant”
- “allow”
- “henpecked”
- “strategic male deference”
- “chivalry”





# Dominance reduces costs to females:

- Sexual coercion/ Male violence to females
- Infanticide
- Limitations on free choice of mates



# Female -Male Relationships

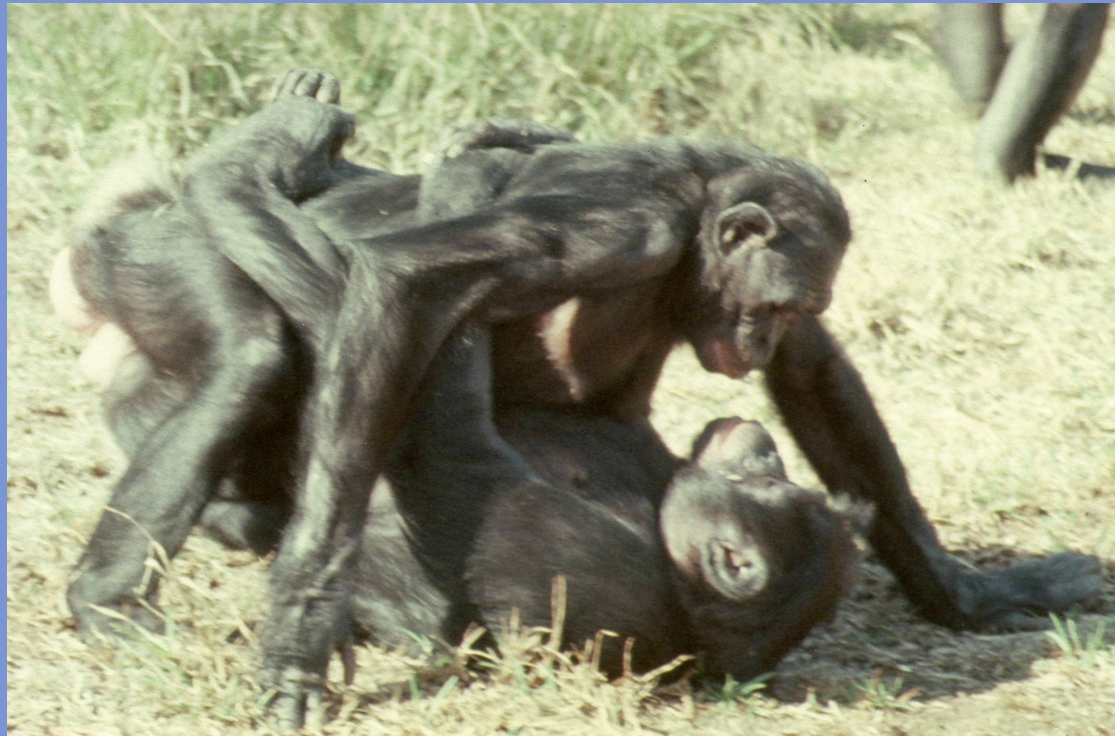
- Different from chimps
- Sex is a negotiation tool for both sexes







Proximate Incentive



Orgasm






# Bonobo Genital Anatomy

- Clitoris differs in size and placement from chimp
- Swelling differs in size, placement and duration from chimp
- Clitoris is well placed (“specially designed”) for stimulation
- Pleasurable sex is the lubricant in their social bonding



Ultimate Payoff



# Sexual Pleasure as Adaptive AND Discriminating

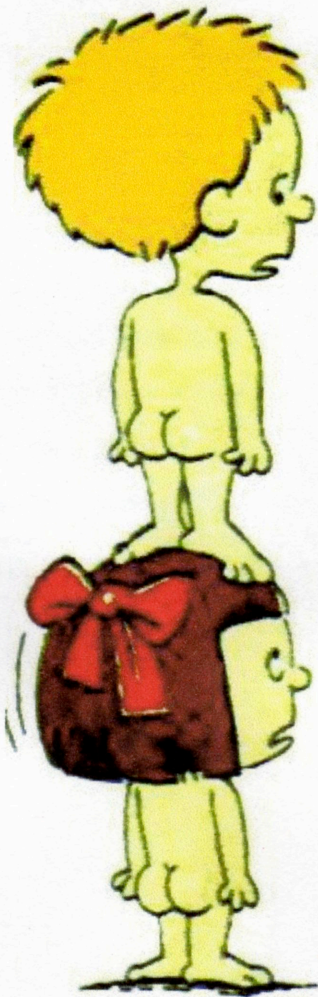
- “When we see a (human) perceptual or cognitive ability that looks curiously sensitive to stimulation and yet resistant to satisfaction, we should not assume that it is a poorly designed information system. It may be part of a system for sexual or social discrimination” G. Miller 2001 p. 240





# Sex has many functions:

- Procreative
- Tension reduction/resolution
- Pleasure
- Bond formation
- Bond maintenance
- Pleasurable, but discriminating, sex as an adaptation in both sexes



*OK, So we've  
taken off our  
clothes and I'm  
on top of you -  
how long before  
we get that  
orgasm thing?*

*I don't know but  
now I understand  
why mummy has  
a headache all  
the time!*