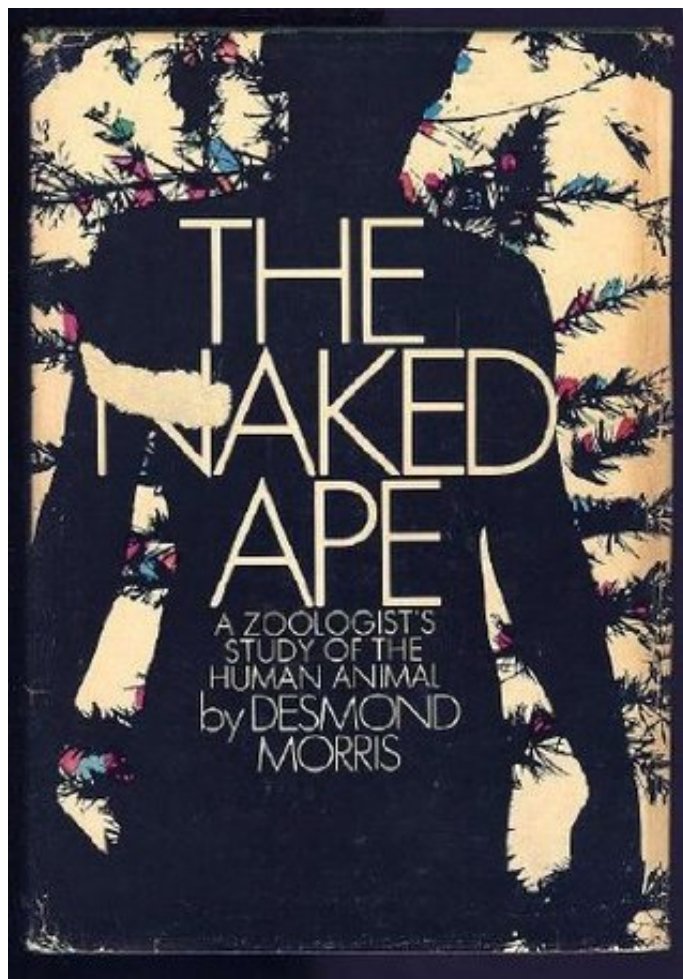

Desmond Morris

The Naked Ape



Title: The Naked Ape

Author: Desmond Morris

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Description

This work has become a benchmark of popular anthropology & psychology. Zoologist Desmond Morris considers humans as being simply another animal species in this classic book first published in 1967. Here's the Naked Ape at his most primal in love, at work, at war. Meet man as he really is: relative to the apes, stripped of his veneer as we see him courting, making love, sleeping, socializing, grooming, playing. **The Naked Ape** takes its place alongside Darwin's **Origin of the Species** presenting man not as a fallen angel, but as a risen ape, remarkable in his resilience, energy & imagination, yet an animal nonetheless, in danger of forgetting his origins. With its penetrating insights on human beginnings, sex life, habits & our bonds to the animal kingdom, **The Naked Ape** is a landmark, at once provocative, compelling & timeless.

Insightful reviews

Luis Soria: Para ser honestos, este es el primer libro de divulgación científica como tal que he leído. Me gustó este libro por que me ayudó a comprender muchos de los aspectos del comportamiento de nuestra especie y teorías (aunque expresadas como hechos) sobre fundamentos. En la era en la que vivimos, inconscientemente, todos sabemos que nuestro comportamiento y nuestro estilo de vida ciudadano es, de alguna forma, poco natural. Consideramos (o al menos yo) que el stress, la contaminación, la violencia, el constante ir y venir, las prisas y los ambientes rectos, grises y con muy pocas áreas verdes de nuestras ciudades, no pueden ser normales. Constantemente escuchamos a la gente decir que 'la vida en provincia es más tranquila', 'la gente del campo se enferma menos', etc... Esto me hace surgir una duda: ¿que sería lo 'normal'?, ¿cual debería ser el comportamiento natural del Homo sapiens?, ¿onde se supone que debería vivir?, ¿Que se supone que debería comer?, ¿como debería actuar?.

Dado que somos los únicos representantes vivos de nuestro genero, solía recurrir al comportamiento de otros grandes simios (especialmente el chimpancé) para responderme estas dudas. Para mi, el comportamiento de los mal llamados 'antropoides' debía ser, si no igual, al menos muy aproximado al comportamiento que nosotros deberíamos exhibir como especie. Pero este libro me hizo ver que existen marcadas diferencias entre nuestros 'primos' y nosotros. Los 'Homo' seguimos una senda evolutiva distinta la del resto de los primates vivos.

Aunque muchas de las conclusiones a las que llegó el autor me parecían forzadas, aventuradas e incluso inverosímiles, muchas otras me resultaron bastante lógicas. No puedo evitar pensar en como podría cambiar la tesis si se reeditara hoy, teniendo en cuenta todos los descubrimientos paleontológicos y antropológicos que ha habido desde que se publicó la primera vez. ¿Cambiaría mucho? Probablemente. Tal vez muchas de las ideas expresadas terminarían por confirmarse, mientras que muchas otras terminarían siendo refutadas por completo, obligándonos a formular nuevas hipótesis sobre el porque de muchos de nuestros instintos, actitudes, manías y patrones.

Arturo Javier: Una excelente introducción a la sociobiología. Las hipótesis que propone el autor a veces pueden parecer descabelladas, pero si continuas leyendo, te das cuenta de que tienen

mucho sentido. Los apartados más divertidos son aquellos en los que el autor explica el comportamiento sexual, la evolución de los caracteres sexuales, y la eterna lucha entre los sistemas simpático y parasimpático.

Jean: I disagree with those who say this book is homophobic and/or misogynistic. Morris says some things that in normal conversational context might be dubbed as such, but his explicit purpose was to view mans behavior from an objective standpoint. He succeeds. Political correctness has no place in (even attempted) scientific writing. He DOES state that gay couples cannot procreate on their own. However he goes on to discuss scenarios where this may be a pro. Don't overreact.

When I read this book, I was unaware it was written decades ago. Morris' observations were fairly elementary to me, I assume since I grew up hearing a good deal of them. It is still quite enjoyable to read despite my experience.

Nikki: i believe the concept that of this method of people as an animal like all different is a superb one. we're liable to taking into account ourselves as a species apart, while we are not, or even if we were, lets do with placing again in our areas occasionally -- being human doesn't suggest we are extra beneficial than the other creature, all of that have their very own variations to house the surroundings they locate themselves in. we are quite versatile, yes, yet simply because we developed that way, now not as a result of a few exact merit. Anyway, whereas the process is interesting, and Desmond Morris' writing is engaging, this is often certainly out of date. He retains a number of too lots of his human expectancies kicking around, like expectancies of gender roles and sexuality. it's a quite previous book, and is the reason it, and it can definitely do with a few updating. If you are quite hooked up to notions of people as being sacred, set apart, etc, you will not are looking to learn this. And when you've got any sexual hangups, you will not are looking to learn this, both -- there is a entire bankruptcy on sex. Granted, it is a very previous view of sex, contemplating it in simple terms when it comes to diversifications (dare we whisper to Morris that gay behaviour might persist in a inhabitants just because it feels stable and in basic terms strict monogamy may suggest that any 'gay gene' might die out?), yet still, it may be particularly explicit. I do not trust Morris on many aspects, yet his try and examine people as animals needs to be commended.

reed: This e-book astonished humans forty years in the past and encouraged all that psuedo-scientific "men are hunters, ladies are gatherers" crap, or so i am told. it is elderly badly. the writer comes throughout as beautiful filled with himself -- he thinks his method of examining human habit (from a zoological perspective) increases him above bias, yet he is amusingly blind to his personal biases -- misogyny, homophobia, and anti-psychiatry, to call a few. It's nonetheless bought a few fascinating parts, I guess, yet i may purely make it approximately midway via earlier than I received too bored. The humorous factor is that i actually do imagine he has a superb point; people are animals and we must always pay extra realization to how our animal nature motivates us and impacts our behavior.

Mat: effortless to determine why this e-book has been referred to as - or even calls itself - controversial. yet it will probably switch how you examine the area - like every solid books.

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