

LOMAKO BONOBO SOCIAL AND RANGING BEHAVIOR: FEMALE BONDING, MALE STRATEGIES, AND WHY NO INFANTICIDE OR LETHAL RAIDING

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Lomako Bonobos show strong female bonding and not male bonding in social behavior, party composition, and ranging behavior. Female affiliative alliances do not mitigate male aggression. Aggression from males increased with number of females ($r=0.899$, $P<0.01$) and aggression among males was highest when more females were present but was not significant ($r=0.414$, not significant). Female alliances were important in relative power of males and females. Males were socially dominant to females in dyadic interactions but female coalitions facilitate greater female power in feeding priority and controlling prized resources including meat. Male-male aggression reflected individual male strategies, mostly occurring away from females and involving significantly more disputes over control of access into feeding trees and associated mating opportunities than other circumstances (access: $G=18.686$, $P<0.001$, mating: $G=124.707$ $P<0.001$). Male-infant relationships and lack of infanticide may also reflect male mating strategies. Adult males were not aggressive towards infants, but were towards juveniles (11% of all aggressive interactions, $n=27$). Males interacted affiliatively with infants more than females (15% vs 3%) and less with juveniles (7% vs 9%) often resulting in males approaching closer and having future contact with mothers. Female cohesion and ranging may also remove potential advantages of lethal raiding as females in cohesive parties have larger ranges than individual males. Lethal raids would not gain additional females. Bonobo male social and ranging behavior reflected individual strategies to gain access to cohesive females. Research was supported by NSF grants BNS-8311252, SBR-9600547, and BCS-0610233 to FJW and the Leakey Foundation.

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