

**NON-AGGRESSIVE INTERVENTIONS IN CONFLICTS AMONG CAPTIVE BORNEAN ORANGUTANS
(*PONGO PYGMAEUS*)**

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Although it is well-known that orangutans spend most of their time alone in the wild, several studies in captivity have reported frequent social interactions, including aggression, among orangutans. As yet there is a lack of knowledge about how they cope with aggression. We provide a number of new observations of interventions by third-parties in aggressive interactions between captive Bornean orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus*) in the Tama Zoological Park, Japan. We observed that an adult female and an adolescent male intervened in aggressive interactions in 2007. Interventions by third-parties in conflicts were observed in 18 cases of 29 conflicts in total (61%). The victim was a newly introduced juvenile female who was unrelated to any individual in the zoo. The ways in which the orangutans intervened were not aggressive and the interveners seemed to simply separate the opponents. These interventions did not lead to further aggression toward the interveners in almost every case (once in 20 interventions). From video record, we found that this adult female did an intervention in conflicts occurred between young individuals in 1997. Under captive conditions, this kind of conflict management behavior is sometimes observed. And it promotes the peaceful coexistence of captive orangutans. This study was permitted by Tama Zoological Park, Tokyo, Japan.

Keywords: captive orangutan, third-party intervention, non-aggressive intervention, conflict management