

**OBSERVATIONS ON A DAYTIME BIRTH IN THE WILD OF A TITI MONKEY (*CALLICEBUS OENANTHE*) AND SUBSEQUENT MALE PARENTAL CARE**

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Behaviors displayed during birth events, including prenatal, parturition, and postpartum periods, can give insight into caretaking roles in species in which the offspring is cared for by individuals other than the mother. Titi monkeys, genus *Callicebus*, exhibit a pair bonded social system along with intense male care of offspring. I report the first case of a birth seen in a group of wild *C. oenanthe*, a little known species in northern Peru. As part of a larger socioecological study conducted from January to August 2005 (940 total observation hours), *ad libitum* events were recorded on reproductive events, infant transfers, infant carrying, anogenital inspection, and grooming. In the three hours preceding and during parturition, the male remained in close proximity to the female. The male licked and examined the infant three minutes after parturition; carried the infant within 24 hours after birth, and was sole carrier of the infant; and cleaned the infant's genitalia twice as often as the female. The male groomed the infant starting at 2.5 months old, and was its sole groomer during the first four months. The infant only groomed the male. During this period, the female did not perform any grooming of the infant. In this work, I will evaluate alternative explanations for exhibition of intense paternal care, including increased likelihood of offspring survival, retention of offspring as helpers, and the evolution of social monogamy. The presented footage is the first video documenting a diurnal birth of a titi monkey in the wild.

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