

## IS SEX-BIASED DISPERSAL AFFECTING THE WITHIN-GROUP SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS? A COMPARATIVE STUDY USING TWO COLOBINE SPECIES IN GUINE BISSAU

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Red and black-and-white colobus are closely related species, often living in sympatry and exhibiting different social systems. For example, in red colobus dispersal is mainly female mediated, whereas in black-and-white colobus, males are the dispersing sex. We therefore expect closer social bonding between females in black-and-white colobus and, male coalition formation and weak social bonding between females in red colobus. From October 2008 to March 2009, 19 days of *Ad libitum* data were collected on one social group of each study species in Cantanhez National Park, Guinea Bissau. Additionally, 700bp of the D-loop region of the mitochondrial DNA was analysed for the 9 individuals of the black-and-white colobus group. Behavioural data show that red colobus females engage in grooming events with other females more often than black-and-white colobus, suggesting stronger social bonding between red than black-and-white colobus females. In red colobus, females engage in grooming events more often with other females than with males and grooming among males is rare. In black-and-white colobus, females do not have preference in grooming other females more than grooming males. These first findings seem to show different within social group dynamics from expectation considering the dispersal systems described above. Genetic data seem to support the male dispersal in this black-and-white colobus group since only one haplotype was found. The same genetic analysis is being carried for the red colobus group and results will help us to better understand the unusual social pattern exhibited by this group.

Keywords: colobine monkeys, social behavior, sympatry, sex-biased dispersal