

Stefanie Tellex

Week 2

Steve Duck. Interaction and Daily Life in Long-term Relationships

I feel like this article is heavy on how things seem to the author and light on actually reviewing literature. It's clear why - because the subject matter is hard to study objectively. And a lot of what he says meshes with my subjective experience of relationships. I'll buy it, but I don't think its science.

(So now we see the real reason that class is on Wednesday - it promotes "conflict-laden" (p 83), stimulating discussion. :-))

Glyn Collis and June McNicholas?. A Theoretical Basis for Health Benefits of Pet Ownership: Attachment versus Psychological Support

This article spends a long time discrediting attachment as a primary component of person-pet relationships. Intuitively, the parent to child caregiver relationship seems to be a much better metaphor for the pet relationship; attachment seems counterintuitive. So it's not surprising that they can show that it doesn't explain much about pets. The article mentions that parent-to-child caregiver relationships are asymmetrical in the same direction as pet relationships, but spends very little time overall analyzing the pet relationship in terms of that. In the end of that section, they conclude that "It is not particularly helpful to focus on attachment, rather than on any other category of relationships." To rigorously make this point, they should similarly discredit all the human relationship analogs that they listed at the beginning. Maybe they don't in the interest of space (and I suppose some are obvious), but they should at least address the caregiver relationship in more detail.

Tim Bickmore. *Theory*. Chapter from Relational Agents: Effecting Change through Human-Computer Relationships

I'm having a hard time writing something coherent about this chapter, so this one is somewhat rambled.

I don't see how line 3 lets G2 off the hook... it would only be off the hook if G1 could do alpha without G2's help, in which case no accommodation would take place...?

To nitpick the definition of a relationship... say that two people were good friends, and then one person rides a spaceship to another galaxy, never to return. They say a tearful goodbye, part on excellent terms, and never see each other again, but frequently tell stories to their friends about the good times they had with their partner. I think both would say they are still friends, and are still in a relationship, despite the fact that they don't expect to interact again. The point is that they **would** interact, if it was possible.