

Bodily communication, or non-verbal communication (NVC), plays a central part in human social behaviour. Recent research by social psychologists and others has shown that these signals play a more important part, and function in a more intricate manner, than had previously been realized. If we want to understand human social behaviour we shall have to disentangle this non-verbal system.

We know what these non-verbal signals are:

facial expression

gaze (and pupil dilation)

gestures, and other bodily movements

posture

bodily contact

spatial behaviour

clothes, and other aspects of appearance

non-verbal vocalizations

smell