

MORALITY WITHOUT RELIGION



HOMO HOMINI LUPUS?



Natural Selection

PROCESS



?

OUTCOME

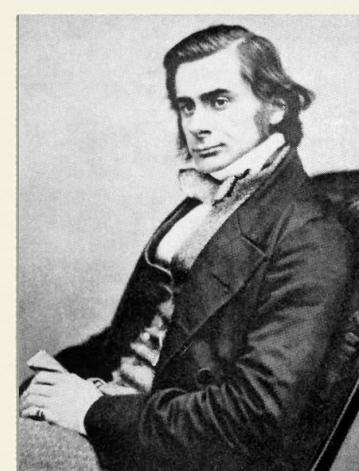
Nasty nature
Moral “veneer”

Social nature
Moral tendencies

1: Veneer Theory

Morality is:

- ❶ Departure from nature
- ❷ Uniquely human
- ❸ Calculated

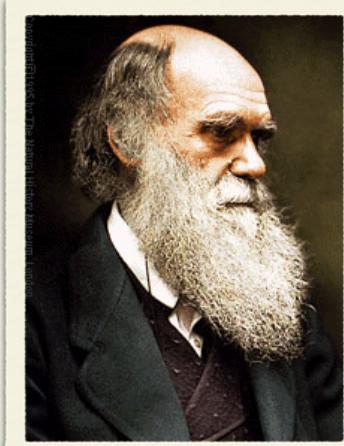


T. H. Huxley, 1894

2: Evolved Morality

Morality is:

- Product of evolution
- Continuous with other animals
- Emotionally based

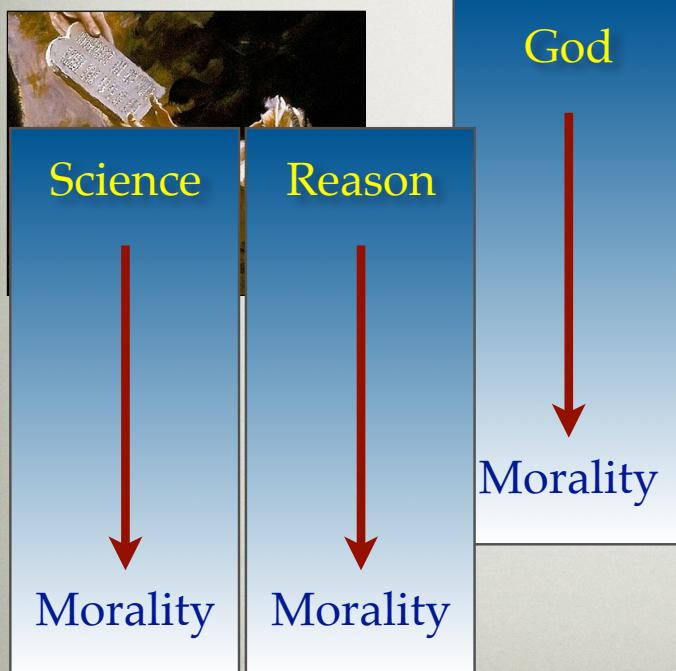


Charles Darwin

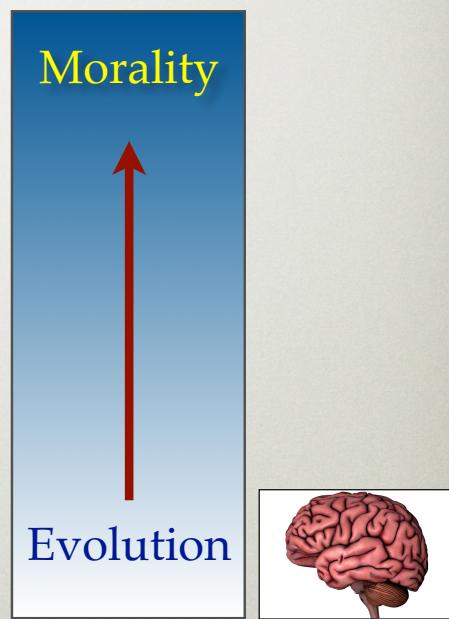
Descent of Man

“Any animal whatever, endowed with well-marked social instincts ... would inevitably acquire a moral sense or conscience, as soon as its intellectual powers had become as well developed, or nearly as well developed, as in man.”

TOP-DOWN



BOTTOM-UP



Pillars of Morality



Empathy

Compassion

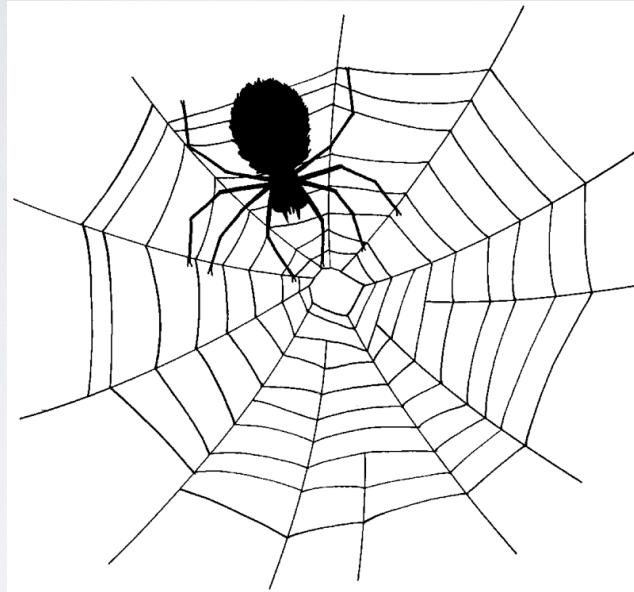
Reciprocity

Fairness

NATURALISTIC FALLACY

- One cannot move from “is” to “ought.”
- One cannot derive “values” from “facts.”
- Animal behavior is descriptive, human morality is prescriptive.

But who says animals just are, just do?



WEB REPAIR

Ideal

Compromised

Repair & correct

Ideal

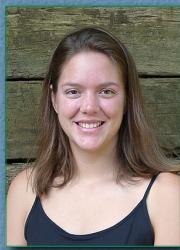
Hierarchy	Disobey	Punish, assert dominance	Hierarchy
Close relationship	Conflict	Reconcile	Close relationship
Harmony	Unfair distribution	Protest inequality	Harmony

Of cucumbers and grapes

w/ Dr. Sarah Brosnan



Inequity Task



HUMAN EXCHANGER



Inequity Aversion



S. Brosnan & F. de Waal (2003), *Nature* 425: 297-299.



Dog Inequity



Friederike Range et al., PNAS, 2008

DO PRIMATES EQUALIZE OUTCOMES?



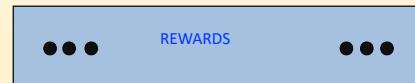
w/ Dr. Darby Proctor

Chimpanzee Ultimatum Game

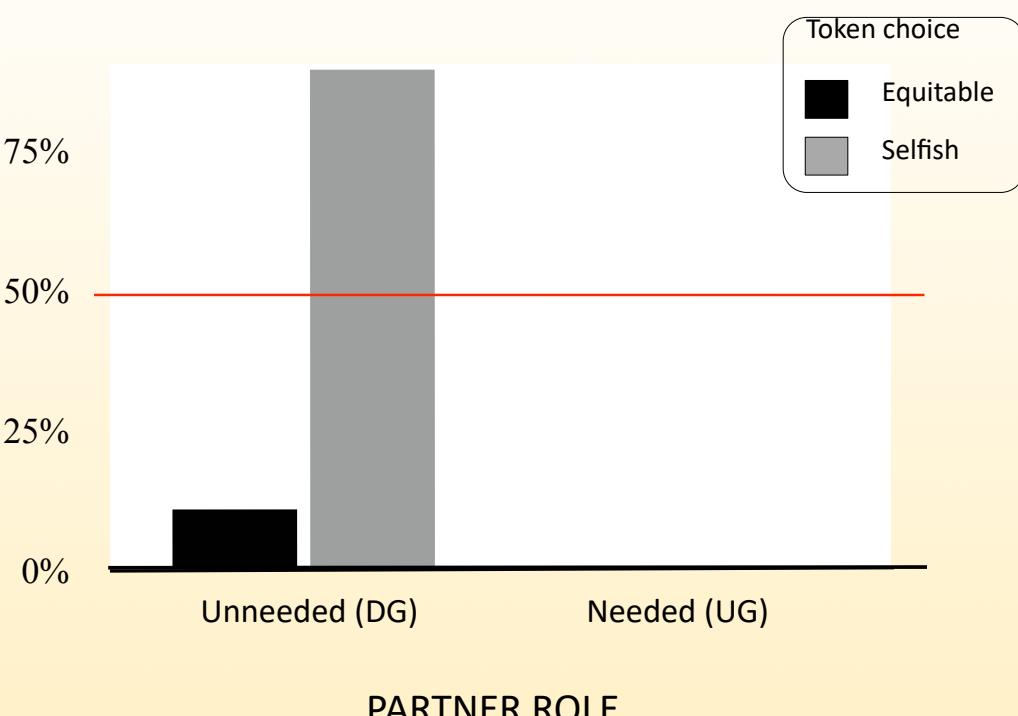
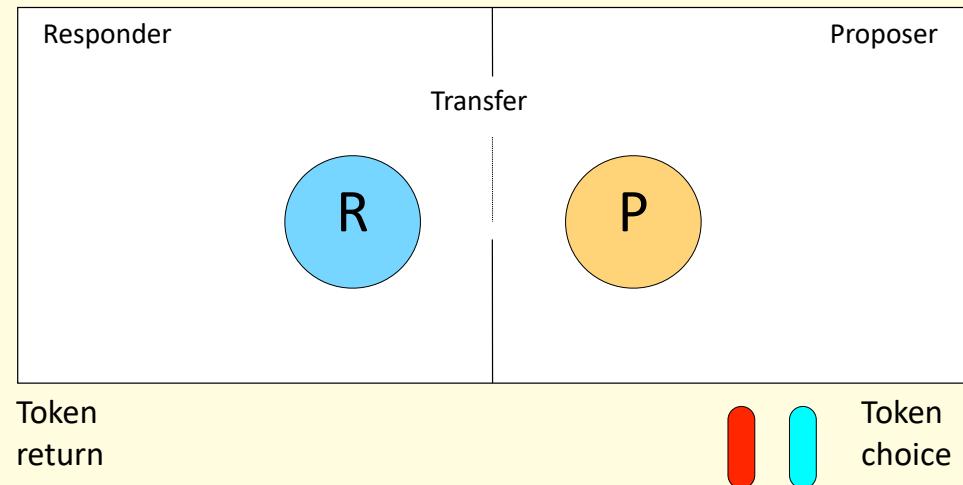
Token Choice

Selfish distribution

Equitable distribution



PROCTOR ET AL. 2013, PNAS



Sense of Fairness

1st Order

Monkeys, dogs, corvids, young children

Negative reaction to getting less

Resentment
Protest

2nd
Order

Human adults, great apes

Anticipation of disharmony
if you take too much

Equalize outcome

Building Blocks

Sympathy Related

Attachment, succorance, and emotional contagion.
Learned adjustment to and special treatment of the disabled and injured.
Ability to trade places mentally with others: cognitive empathy.

A concept of giving, trading, and revenge.

Moralistic aggression against violators of reciprocity rules.

Norm Related

Prescriptive social rules.
Internalization of rules and anticipation of punishment.
A sense of social regularity and expectation about how one ought to be treated.

Getting Along

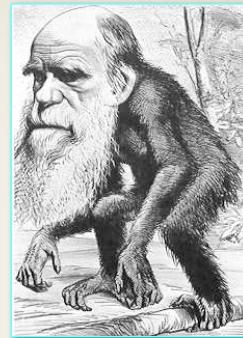
Peacemaking and avoidance of conflict.
Community concern and maintenance of good relationships.
Accommodation of conflicting interests through negotiation

Reciprocity

Darwin Was Right!

Morality is deeply seated

- Emotionally driven
- Ancient brain areas
- Immediate “gut” empathy



Continuity w/ other primates

- Conflict resolution
- Cooperation and shared goals
- Reciprocity and fairness
- Empathy and consolation