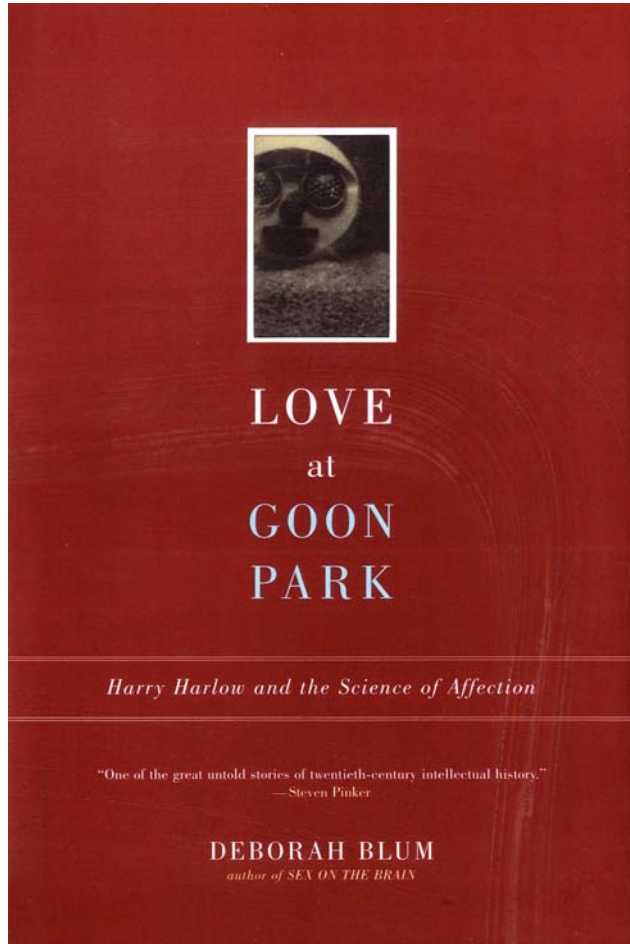


Book of The Century



Deborah Blum (2002). *Love at Goon Park. Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection.* Perseus Publishing. Cambridge, MA.

Additional Commentary

The remarkable observation about this important scientific story of an extraordinary man-- Harry Harlow--is what was not said. Although, Blum reviewed the Mason-Berkson moving mother surrogate study she failed to recognize that it was the most important study in the history of infrahuman primate studies on mother-infant separation. Inexplicably she failed to cite the Time-Life documentary film "Rock a Bye Baby" (1970) that reviewed these studies, the damage inflicted upon the cerebellum and other brain structures that were supported by the NICHD. A letter of protest and request for corrective actions was sent to *Discovery Magazine*, which went unacknowledged and is attached here.

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16 January 2003

Stephen L. Petranek
Editor In Chief

Discover
114 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10011-5690

Dear Mr. Petranek,

The book *Love at Goon Park: Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection* by Deborah Blum and reviewed in *Discover*, February 2003 by Elizabeth Royte has glaring omissions that need to be corrected, as her book fails to cite the significant contributions that developmental neuropsychologists and neurobiologists have made to identifying developmental brain abnormalities in these mother deprived monkeys and their implications for modern human societies.

Additionally, the unique and significant contributions of Drs. William Mason and Gershon Berkson, who demonstrated that a moving mother surrogate could prevent the variety of emotional-social disorders of maternal-infant separation, was not sufficiently recognized by Deborah Blum. Nor was she aware that the prevention of depression and violence through mother-infant movement stimulation (baby carrying) was validated by studies on tribal cultures.

Specifically, the peaceful or violent nature of 49 tribal cultures could be predicted with 80% accuracy from a single measure of mother-infant bonding—baby carrying during the first year of live.

Following is a list of some of the brain studies that documented brain disorders in the mother deprived violent adult monkeys, as well as selected cross-cultural studies, which Deborah Blum was evidently not familiar with.

Primate Mother Deprivation Brain Studies

Berman, A.J., Berman, D. & Prescott, J.W. (1974). The effect of cerebellar lesions on emotional behavior in the rhesus monkey. In: *The Cerebellum, Epilepsy and Behavior*. (Cooper, I.S., Riklon, M.V. & Snider, R.S. (Eds) Plenum, NY
<http://www.violence.de/berman/article.html>

Bryan, G.K. and Riesen, A.H. (1989). Deprived Somatosensory-Motor Experience in Stumptailed Monkey Neocortex: Dendritic Spine Density and Dendritic Branching of Layer IIIB Pyramidal Cells. *The Journal of Comparative Neurology* 286: 208-217.

Coe, C.L., Wiener, S.G., Rosenberg, L.T., and Levine, S. (1985). Endocrine and immune response to separation and maternal loss in nonhuman primates. In *The Psychobiology of Attachment and Separation*. Pp. 163-199. (Reite, M. and Fields, T., Eds). New York. Academic Press.

Coleman, M. (1971). Platelet serotonin in disturbed monkeys and children.. *Clinical Proceed. of the Children's Hospital*. 27(7), 187-194.
<http://www.violence.de/coleman/article.html>

Floeter, M.K. and Greenough, W.T. (1979). Cerebellar plasticity: Modification of purkinje cell structure by differential rearing in monkeys. *Science*, 206, 227-229.

Heath, R.G. (1972). Electroencephalographic studies in isolation raised monkeys with behavioral impairment. *Diseases of the Nervous Systems*, 33, 157-163

Heath, R. G. (1975): Maternal-social deprivation and abnormal brain development: Disorders of emotional and social behavior. In *Brain Function and Malnutrition: Neuropsychological*

Methods of Assessment (Prescott, J.W., Read, M.S., & Coursin, D.B., Eds). John Wiley New York. <http://www.violence.de/heath/bfm/article.html>

Higley, J.D., Suomi, S.J., Linnoila, M. (1990). Parallels in Aggression and Serotonin: Consideration of Development, Rearing History, and Sex Differences. In: *Violence and Suicidality: Perspectives In Clinical and Psychobiological Research* (Herman van Praag, Robert Plutchik and Alan Apter, Eds) NY: Brunner/Mazel.

Higley, J.D., Suomi, S.J. and Linnoila, M. A (1996). Nonhuman Primate Model of Type II Excessive Alcohol Consumption? Part 1. Low Cerebrospinal Fluid 5-Hydroxyindoleacetic Acid Concentrations and Diminished Social Competence Correlate with Excessive Alcohol Consumption. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*. V20(4):629-642.

Laudenslager, ML, Reits M., Harbeck, R. (1982). Suppressed immune response in infant monkeys associated with maternal separation. *Behav Neural Biol* 36:40-48.

Mason, W.A. (1968). Early social deprivation in the non-human primates: Implications for human behavior. In: *Environmental Influences*. (D.E. Glass, Ed). The Rockefeller University Press and Russell Sage Foundation, New York.

Mason, W.A. and Berkson, G. (1975). Effects of Maternal Mobility on the Development of Rocking and Other Behaviors in Rhesus Monkeys: A Study with Artificial Mothers. *Developmental Psychobiology*. 8, 197-221

Riesen, A.H., Dickerson, G.P. and Struble, R.G. (1977). Somatosensory Restriction and Behavioral Development in Stumptail Monkeys. *Annals New York Academy of Science*, 290, 285-294

Saltzberg, B. Lustick, L.S. and Heath, R.G. (1971). Detection of Focal Depth Spiking in the Scalp EEG of Monkeys. *Electroencephalography and Clinical Neurophysiology*. , 31, 327-333

Struble, R.G. and Riesen, A.H. (1978) Changes in Cortical Dendritic Branching Subsequent to Partial Social Isolation in Stumptail Monkeys. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 11(5): 479-486

Cross- Cultural Studies

Prescott, J.W. (1975) Body Pleasure and the Origins of Violence. *The Futurist* April.
Reprinted: *The Bulletin Of The Atomic Scientists* (1975) November.
<http://www.violence.de/prescott/bulletin/article.html>

Prescott, J.W. (1976). Somatosensory deprivation and its relationship to the blind. In: *The Effects of Blindness and Other Impairments on Early Development* pp.65-121(Z.S. Jastrembke, Ed.). American Foundation For The Blind, New York.
<http://www.violence.de/prescott/afb/paper.pdf>

Prescott, J.W. (1977). Phylogenetic and ontogenetic aspects of human affectional development. In: *Progress In Sexology*. Proceedings of the 1976 International Congress of Sexology. (R. Gemme & C.C. Wheeler, Eds.) Plenum Press, New York.

Prescott, J.W. (1979): Deprivation of physical affection as a primary process in the development of physical violence. In. *Child Abuse and Violence* (Gil, D. G., Ed). AMS Press New York pp 66-137.

Prescott, J.W. (1990): Affectional bonding for the prevention of violent behaviors: Neurobiological, Psychological and Religious/Spiritual Determinants. In. *Violent Behavior Vol. I: Assessment and Intervention*. (L.J. Hertzberg, et. al., Eds). PMA Publishing NY pp. 110-142.

Prescott, J.W. (1996). The Origins of Human Love and Violence. *Pre- and Perinatal Psychology Journal*. 10(3):143-188. Spring. <http://www.violence.de/prescott/pppj/article.html>

Prescott, J.W. (1996). How Breast Feeding Protects Newborns and Culture: Brain Development and Affectional Bonding For The Prevention of Depression and Violence. (Abstract). 1996 *Childbirth Congress ASPO/Lamaze* March 22-25. Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, CA.

Prescott, J.W. (1997). Breastfeeding: brain nutrients in brain development for human love and peace. *Touch the Future* Newsletter, Spring 1997.
<http://www.violence.de/prescott/ttf/article.html>

Prescott, J.W. (1999). Review: Along the evolutionary biological trail. *Mother Nature: A History of Mothers, Infants, and Natural Selection* by Sarah Hrdy. Pantheon. New York
<http://www.violence.de/prescott/reviews/hrdy.html>

Prescott, J.W. (2001). Commentary. Only more mother-infant bonding can prevent cycles of violence. *Cerebrum*. 3 (1) 8-9 & 124. <http://www.violence.de/prescott/reviews/cerebrum.doc>

A number of the above studies have been posted at the above websites for your review. I am also enclosing two video documentary tapes that document some of the brain-behavioral disorders of depressed and violent mother deprived monkeys that makes more clear the life long disability of failed mother love and its implications for modern human societies.

I would be pleased to write an article for *Discovery* that reviews these data and places them in perspective for modern human cultures for the prevention of depression and violence, if that would be of interest to you. Enclosed are a few selected publications that will give you an overview of these perspectives.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.
Director

The following photo collage illustrates the wide variety of long-term consequences of maternal-infant separation (impaired or loss of maternal affectional bonding) that range from self-mutilation, child abuse and impaired sexual functioning. See: Prescott, 1977.