

New Titles

Source: BioScience, 62(8) : 775-776

Published By: American Institute of Biological Sciences

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1525/bio.2012.62.8.13>

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

for the evolution of social groups. But Wilson's focus remains on the humans, with urban biodiversity being discussed primarily in terms of its value for human psychological health.

Appealing personal stories of the citizens of Binghamton are woven together with those of scientists throughout Wilson's broad narrative, but trouble arises when these individual stories are filtered by the author's overarching vision in ways that distort their essence. I was particularly struck by the tale of the student Omar Eldakar. Wilson depicts Omar as a "street-smart" minority kid, who performed poorly in grade school, excelled at athletics, exhibited antisocial traits, but grew (under the good professor's benevolent influence) into a brilliant scholar of human social behavior and evolution. All this sounds great, until you contemplate Omar's background. He is also the well-loved son of well-educated Egyptian parents. His mother is an engineer with a PhD; his father is a caring parent who imparted his love for biology to his son and migrated to the United States for a better life. This profile does not exactly fit the stereotype of a street-smart minority kid. Could Omar's poor performance on standardized tests not simply be a result of being raised within a different cultural background rather than of innate (or culturally conditioned) Machiavellian tendencies?

Overall, the real strength of *The Neighborhood Project* is its detailed depiction of Wilson's ongoing experiment of the BNP. Given the urgency of social and environmental problems facing humanity these days, any new experimental approach must be welcomed, but its performance must also be closely observed and measured using the naturalistic scientific methodology championed, but not rigorously applied, in this book. If science works hand in hand with community development, so much the better for us egghead professors searching for implementation of our theories—but only if we are not too wedded to them.

Karl Marx (1886) observed, "The philosophers have only interpreted the

How to Contact AIBS

BioScience

Advertising, print and online:
adsales@ucpressjournals.com

Classified advertising:
jwilliams@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 209

Online:
www.aibs.org/bioscienceonline

Permissions:
www.ucpressjournals.com/reprintinfo.asp

Publisher:
rogrady@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 258

Submission inquiries:
tbearsley@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 326

Subscriptions: Individual
admin@aibs.org
703-790-1745

Subscriptions: Institutional
customerservice@ucpressjournals.com
510-643-7154

AIBS

ActionBioscience.org:
tbearsley@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 326

Education Office:
smusante@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 311

Executive Director: rogrady@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 258

Meetings and Conference Services:
sburk@aibs.org
703-790-1745

Membership Records: admin@aibs.org
703-790-1745

Membership and Community Programs: spotter@aibs.org
941-923-6320

Public Policy Office: rgropp@aibs.org
202-628-1500 x. 250

Scientific Peer-Review Services:
sglisson@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 202

Web/IT Services:
jwagener@aibs.org
703-674-2500 x. 107

world, in various ways; the point is to change it." Evolutionary biologists have only recently begun to interpret the city, and in doing so, many are also beginning to change it, because in the city, where most of us now live, it is possible—even necessary—to engage in philosophy and action at the same time. We need both a deeper understanding of urban and human social systems and ways to make a better world for ourselves and our fellow life forms. We must, however, also guard against the hubris of thinking that our particular disciplinary approach holds the key (or the commandments) to unlocking human potential when a diversity of tools, perspectives, and policies may be more adaptive in a heterogeneous world.

References cited

- Bryne R[W], Whiten A, eds. 1988. Machiavellian Intelligence: Social Expertise and the Evolution of Intellect in Monkeys, Apes, and Humans. Oxford University Press.
- . 1992. Cognitive evolution in primates: Evidence from tactical deception. *Man* 27: 609–627.
- Margulis L. 1971. Origin of Eukaryotic Cells. Yale University Press.
- Marx K. 1886. Theses on Feuerbach. Page 571 in Marx K, Engels F, eds. *The German Ideology*. Reprinted, Prometheus Books, 1998.
- Maslow AH. 1966. *The Psychology of Science: A Reconnaissance*. Maurice Basset.
- Ostrom E. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge University Press.

MADHUSUDAN KATTI

Madhusudan Katti (mkatti@csufresno.edu) is an associate professor of biology at California State University in Fresno.

NEW TITLES

Adapting to a Changing Environment: Confronting the Consequences of Climate Change. Tim R. McClanahan and Joshua E. Cinner. Oxford University Press, 2011. 208 pp., illus. \$65.00 (ISBN 9780199754489 cloth).

doi:10.1525/bio.2012.62.8.13

- Biodiversity in Agriculture: Domestication, Evolution, and Sustainability.** Paul Gepts, Thomas R. Famula, Robert L. Bettinger, Stephen B. Brush, Ardeshir B. Damania, Patrick E. McGuire, and Calvin O. Qualset, eds. Cambridge University Press, 2012. 630 pp., illus. \$70.00 (ISBN 9780521170871 paper).
- Biogeography of Microscopic Organisms: Is Everything Small Everywhere?** Diego Fontaneto, ed. Cambridge University Press, 2011. 384 pp., illus. \$99.00 (ISBN 9780521766708 cloth).
- Climate and Conservation: Landscape and Seascape Science, Planning, and Action.** Jodi A. Hilty, Charles C. Chester, and Molly S. Cross, eds. Island Press, 2012. 392 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9781610911719 paper).
- Ecological Restoration and Environmental Change: Renewing Damaged Ecosystems.** Stuart K. Allison. Taylor and Francis, 2012. 252 pp., illus. \$84.95 (ISBN 9781849712859 cloth).
- Ecology and Conservation of the Sirenia: Dugongs and Manatees.** Helene Marsh, Thomas J. O'Shea, and John E. Reynolds III. Cambridge University Press, 2012. 536 pp., illus. \$45.50 (ISBN 9780521716437 paper).
- Emerging Avian Disease.** Ellen Paul, ed. (Studies in Avian Biology No. 42). University of California Press, 2012. 126 pp., illus. \$39.95 (ISBN 9780520272378 cloth).
- Evolution and Belief: Confessions of a Religious Paleontologist.** Robert J. Asher. Cambridge University Press, 2012. 324 pp., illus. \$24.99 (ISBN 9780521193832 cloth).
- Fundamentals of Sustainable Development.** Niko Roorda. Taylor and Francis, 2012. 352 pp., illus. \$64.95 (ISBN 9781849714198 paper).
- The Good, the True, and the Beautiful: A Neuronal Approach.** Jean-Pierre Changeux. Yale University Press, 2012. 386 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9780300161397 cloth).
- Lively Capital: Biotechnologies, Ethics, and Governance in Global Markets.** Kaushik Sunder Rajan, ed. Duke University Press, 2012. 536 pp., illus. \$29.95 (ISBN 9780822348313 paper).
- The Mind's Machine: Foundations of Brain and Behavior.** Neil V. Watson and S. Marc Breedlove. Sinauer, 2012. 453 pp., illus. \$119.95 (ISBN 9780878939336 paper).
- The Monkeys of Stormy Mountain: 60 Years of Primatological Research on the Japanese Macaques of Arashiyama.** Jean-Baptiste Leca, Michael A. Huffman, and Paul L. Vasey, eds. Cambridge University Press, 2012. 516 pp., illus. \$120.00 (ISBN 9780521761857 cloth).
- Oceanography and Marine Biology: An Introduction to Marine Science.** David W. Townsend. Sinauer, 2012. 512 pp., illus. \$139.95 (ISBN 9780878936021 cloth).
- The Planet in a Pebble: A Journey into Earth's Deep History.** Jan Zalasiewicz. Oxford University Press, 2012. 256 pp., illus. \$16.95 (ISBN 9780199645695 paper).
- Return to the Sea: The Life and Evolutionary Times of Marine Mammals.** Annalisa Berta. University of California Press, 2012. 224 pp., illus. \$44.95 (ISBN 9780520270572 cloth).
- The Sociology of Food and Agriculture.** Michael Carolan. Taylor and Francis, 2012. 322 pp., illus. \$39.95 (ISBN 9780415698580 paper).
- Why Animals Matter: Animal Consciousness, Animal Welfare, and Human Well-being.** Marian Stamp Dawkins. Oxford University Press, 2012. 224 pp., illus. \$24.95 (ISBN 9780199747511 cloth).