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Class #21: Genetic influences on social behavior

Study questions:

1. What is the difference between genetic determination of behavioral traits and sociobiologists' views concerning genes and behavior? (p 41-43, p 20)
2. Sociobiology has often been deprecated by recitation of the "myth of the deterministic sociobiologist." Give some reasons why this myth has been so enduring since the publication of E.O. Wilson's book that gave the field its name. (p 44-46)
3. Interpret figure 3.1 by explaining how a difference in one allele (B vs b) could result in a behavioral difference between two adults. (p 46-47; cf p 72)
4. Explain exactly how the relative frequency of alleles B and b in Q3 could change (what could cause them to change) over multiple generations.
5. Give an example of an artificial selection experiment that has shown strong genetic influences on behavior. How has this been supported by studies of humans? (p 49-52)
6. What problems often happen when animals are bred exclusively for a single physical trait?
7. Is it true that "No genes for human behavior have been found" ?
8. How could a gene that has what appear to be maladaptive consequences be present in some animals or people today? Why has it not been lost?
9. Each student be prepared to discuss answers to the three questions in the Appendix for ch 3 and in the first appendix question in chapter 2..

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9.20 Animal Behavior
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