

MOTHERING STRATEGIES IN *PAN TROGLODYTES* AND *HOMO SAPIENS* ^{MAS}

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This study applies information gained from primatological studies to the development of mothering strategies for human mothers. Because the nature of the mother-child relationship is critical in the development of a child's self-esteem, which, in turn, impacts the nature of society as a whole, it is essential that women have access to as many sources of guidance and support as possible in their roles as mothers. The choice of *Pan troglodytes* as a model for human behavior is substantiated by the high degree of correlation between the

psycho-physiological attributes of chimpanzees and *Homo sapiens*. Comparison of the behavior of two chimpanzee mothers from the Gombe National Park in Tanzania with the behavior of twenty-five human mothers, as reflected in a mothering survey, reveals that principles of effective mothering can be derived from chimpanzee behavior. The principles modeled by successful chimpanzee mothers are patience, love, firm discipline, and active involvement with the child.