

## Re: What were the habitats of early hominids?

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- *From:* Day Brown <[daybrown@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:daybrown@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 02 Aug 2007 17:16:23 -0700
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On Aug 2, 2:23 pm, claudiusd...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

I think it's pointless to talk of hybridization since we have no evidence and hybridization doesn't explain anything. It's an unnecessary diversion from what really matter about hominid evolution: the selective origins of our communal adaptations.

There is no "moment" of conception, but a period of time during which the ovum wall is permeable. We know further that a myriad of sperm must be present to deliver enough enzyme to create permeability.

Sometimes more than one sperm gets in. If both are XX or XY, nobody notices. but if not, then the resulting fertilization is XXY; which is to say, a hermaphrodite. Its a lot more common than Christian culture likes to admit. I have met two, in different states at different times. If you have contacts within the gay community, you may find some. They feel much more accepted there.

But now, from "Sperm Wars" we find that not all the sperm present at a conception need be from the same donor. And we find further that DNA does not zip together like a new jacket, but like an old one, that often has loops hung out. That can be matched with snippets off the Y chromosome even if the number of chromosomes dont match.

You only have one mother, but you may have more than one 'father'.

Now, there are certain problems with the conventional out of Africa theory that this solves. Then too, there are problems with a genetic bottle neck like the mt Tuba event. If there were only 10,000 hominids alive, they all had to be living in much larger, but isolated groups in order to

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prevent the notorious problems of inbreeding. With a species as complicated as the hominids, the freak rate would've went thru the roof.

But not with hybridization going on. There's no reason to think that females back then were not gang raped and kidnapped by divergent, and now extinct hominid lines. But survived with their progeny anyway, With snippets of new Y chromosomes that would have affected the inbreeding problem.

Presumably, some females would've already been pregnant with taken, and the progeny that gets born accepted into the group as 'native'. I know some pretty ugly bitches that manage to stay pregnant now, so I dont expect it wouldda been different back then.

And this would have had an even more powerful effect when hominids are driven out and then stumble into new ecosystems. I know the usual image is the alpha male pioneer finding new lands. But history shows us its the alpha male warriors who get to keep the old lands, and its the refugees who find the new opportunities.

But between the effects of new ecosystems, and the hybridization with other lines, I dont think we'll ever be able to sort out the descent of man. Then too, in Chad for instance, we have \*one\* skull. No way of knowing if what we have is at all representative. Likewise the debate about the boy that was found in the mud. No way of knowing if he was there to get a drink, or if that was part of his daily foraging routine. Be nice to have a more detailed report on his teeth to sort out more clues about his diet.

I can see how a series of dry years, needing to subsist on tubers rather than fruit, or perhaps driven out of areas that had fruit, the tooth wear could have been bad enuf to result in caries, and then abscesses at a young age, most especially if the adaptation of thicker dentine had not yet begun.

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I'm not as clear as I hope to be, but I only meant the other primates had much more limited diets than the hominids. Everything has a more limited diet than the hominids. Brain development would have facilitated the exploitation of new food sources. The more new food sources the hominids found the smarter they had to be to deal with the diversity, the smarter they got, the more new food sources they found...

Likewise, hominids bred dogs to help cope with new food sources, and the array of instincts the canines have, in addition to their physical form, is really quite remarkable over the course of the last 15,000 years, as well as the complexity of canine responses to particular situations. i would add, that some hominids are much more adept at understanding the body language of dogs, and able to benefit far more from the interaction, whereas other genetic lines tend to regard canines with fear much more often.

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