

# Humans "unique" social

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.bio.evolution/2005-08/msg00065.html>

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  - *Date:* Thu, 4 Aug 2005 18:59:35 -0400 (EDT)
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While watching an interesting program on zebras today on the Nat. Geo. channel, I started wunderin'...

It was essentially stated that, like many animals, zebras have a herding instinct which has evolved to aid in defense (in the case of zebras, mainly of their young) against predators. Thinking of humans, I recall it often being said that humans have a uniquely strong tendency towards sociality (they form groups/tribes, cooperate in many endeavors, combine resources, etc. etc.)

Note:

Is human sociality really unique, or is it simply an extension of the herding instinct of many animals which was originally developed for protection and honed by evolution. In watching the zebras cooperate for their common goal, it struck me as very similar to groups of humans who combine to form adversarial alliances or coalitions (e.g., teams, departments, friends group, etc.) in everyday life. Often such competitive groups are formed ad hoc and may be very subtle. They often provide protection against other groups or people through mass influence or democratic voting. Where is the sometimes claimed, putative unique and exceptional human nobility vis a vis other animals in this?

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- *Follow-Ups:*
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      - ◇ *From:* arne97
    - ◆ ***Re: Humans "unique" social***

Humans "unique" social

◇ *From:* Mark Thomas

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◇ *From:* Mark Thomas

◆ ***Re: Humans "unique" social***

◇ *From:* arne97

◆ ***Re: Humans "unique" social***

◇ *From:* EKurtz99

◆ ***Re: Humans "unique" social***

◇ *From:* Perplexed in Peoria

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- Next by Date: ***Re: Issues: A Question Of Integrity (was: Issues)***
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