

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910972288803321
Autore	Maestripieri Dario
Titolo	Macachiavellian intelligence : how rhesus macaques and humans have conquered the world // Dario Maestripieri
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 2007
ISBN	9786611965907 9781281965905 1281965901 9780226501215 0226501213
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (206 p.)
Disciplina	599.8/64315
Soggetti	Rhesus monkey - Behavior Rhesus monkey - Psychology Machiavellianism (Psychology) Social behavior in animals Psychology, Comparative
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 183-192) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- 1. The Secret of Our Success -- 2. The Weed Macaque -- 3. Nepotism and Politics -- 4. Aggression and Dominance -- 5. Wars and Revolutions -- 6. Sex and Business -- 7. Parental Investment -- 8. The Business of Communication -- 9. Macachiavellian Origins of Love and Compassion -- Notes -- References -- Acknowledgments -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Judged by population size and distribution, homo sapiens are clearly the most successful primates. A close second, however, would be rhesus macaques, who have adapted to-and thrived in-such diverse environments as mountain forests, dry grasslands, and urban sprawl. Scientists have spent countless hours studying these opportunistic monkeys, but rhesus macaques have long been overshadowed in the public eye by the great apes, who, because of their greater intelligence, are naturally assumed to have more to teach us, both about other

primates and about humans as well. Dario Maestripieri thinks it is high time we shelve that misperception, and with Macachiavellian Intelligence he gives rhesus macaques their rightful turn in the spotlight. The product of more than twenty years studying these fascinating creatures, Macachiavellian Intelligence caricatures a society that is as much human as monkey, with hierarchies and power struggles that would impress Machiavelli himself. High-status macaques, for instance, maintain their rank through deft uses of violence and manipulation, while altruism is almost unknown and relationships are perpetually subject to the cruel laws of the market. Throughout this eye-opening account, Maestripieri weds his thorough knowledge of macaque behavior to his abiding fascination with human society and motivations. The result is a book unlike any other, one that draws on economics as much as evolutionary biology, politics as much as primatology. Rife with unexpected connections and peppered with fascinating anecdotes, Macachiavellian Intelligence has as much to teach us about humans as it does about macaques, presenting a wry, rational, and wholly surprising view of our humanity as seen through the monkey in the mirror.

---