



# The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity

*From St. Martin's Griffin*

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**The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity** From St. Martin's Griffin

A compelling and revolutionary work that calls for the immediate extension of our human rights to the great apes.

*The Great Ape Project* looks forward to a new stage in the development of the community of equals, whereby the great apes-chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans-will actually receive many of the same protections and rights that are already accorded to humans.

This profound collection of thirty-one essays by the world's most distinguished observers of free-living apes make up a uniquely satisfying whole, blending observation and interpretation in a highly persuasive case for a complete reassessment of the moral status of our closest kin.

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## **The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity** From St. Martin's Griffin Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### **From Publishers Weekly**

The publication of this volume kicks off the Great Ape Project, a worldwide effort to extend the rights commonly afforded humans to chimpanzees, gorillas and orangutans. Proponents of the project would accord the rights to life, protection of individual liberty and prohibition of torture to all of these creatures. Singer ( *Animal Liberation* ) and freelance writer Cavalieri present 30 essays that make a persuasive case for equal rights. Contributors include field biologists, psychologists, lawyers, philosophers and anthropologists. Bernard Rollins, who teaches at Colorado State, where he developed the first college course in veterinary ethics and animal rights, suggests that the first step is to prohibit the importing of apes for zoos, entertainment or research. Other contributors are Jane Goodall, Roger and Deborah Fouts and Harlan Miller. As presented here, this revolutionary and controversial idea merits consideration.  
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### **From Library Journal**

Proclaiming "the extension of the community of equals" of human beings to include chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans, this book presents "A Declaration on Great Apes," demanding the right to life, the protection of individual liberty, and the prohibition of torture. Thirty scientists, philosophers, and others contribute essays supporting this position. The most interesting essays explore the behavioral, genetic, and evolutionary links among the great apes, including humans, even expressing a view of man as "the third chimpanzee." The ethical articles are more abstract and redundant; this reviewer wanted less philosophy and more information on the practical ramifications of extending moral and legal equality to great apes. A heart-rending account of chimps in roadside zoos made me impatient with the overall theoretical tone. For academic and larger public library collections.

- *Beth Clewis, Prince William P.L., Va.*

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### **From Kirkus Reviews**

Look an orangutan straight in the eye and what do you see? A none-too-distant cousin, say animal-rightists Cavalieri and Singer (*Making Babies*, 1985, etc.)--a creature worthy of all the legal rights and privileges that humans enjoy. In an effort to extend aspects of equality--the right to life, the protection of individual liberties, the prohibition of torture--to the nonhuman great apes (chimpanzees, orangutans, gorillas), Cavalieri and Singer have collected original essays from a host of high-profile contributors, including Jane Goodall, Richard Dawkins, and Douglas Adams. All agree that there's sufficient kinship between humans and the other great apes to warrant a cross-species umbrella protecting basic rights. The arguments come at the reader from three angles: legalistic, biological/physiological, and ethical, with the last being by far the most persuasive (missing, though, is any piece dealing with the religious implications of the project). While important as buttressing material, the knowledge that chimps overlap more than 98 percent of their genes with us--or that, under common law, corporations are regarded as humans--just doesn't have the same impact as the knowledge that chimps experience joy, melancholy, and fear; that they can communicate to the point of having small conversations; or that they're jokesters with subtle senses of humor. Arguments that can really change attitudes include Richard Dawkins's piece on arch-ancestry and ring species (those transitional creatures between species); Tom Regan's peek into the ugly world of lab-testing; and Jane Goodall's cutting to the heart with portraits of chimps she's had the pleasure to know. Meanwhile, lurking behind the whole project is a major can of worms: What about the rights of other species and near cousins in the animal world? Where is the line drawn, and why is it drawn? There's enough forceful material here to make this a standard-

bearer in what may soon become a major ethical debate. -- Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Aaron Powers:**

As people who live in the actual modest era should be change about what going on or info even knowledge to make them keep up with the era and that is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know which one you should start with. This The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

#### **Esther Tackett:**

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#### **Henry Heath:**

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition details. Even you love The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity, you may enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its called reading friends.

#### **Donna Robinson:**

The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity can be one of your nice books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into delight arrangement in writing The Great Ape Project: Equality Beyond Humanity but doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one among it. This great information may drawn you into

completely new stage of crucial pondering.

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