



THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND: PAST TO PRESENT

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Original Interactions

- Ancient humans depended on wild animals for meat and clothing
 - Hunter, gatherer society ~ 2 million ya

Original Interactions

- Domestication of animals began as the nomadic life style gave way to permanent shelters and farming
 - Occurred ~ 10,000ya
 - Helpful to have animal close by
 - Animal provided basic needs

Societal View Of Animals

■ Pastoralism

- Dates back at least 2,100ya and maybe back as far as domestication
- Two primary components
 - Animals are allowed to be used for certain purposes as long as certain conventions are met
 - Day of rest and “humane” slaughter if to be eaten

Societal View Of Animals

■ Pastoralism

- Dates back at least 2,100ya and maybe back as far as domestication
- Two primary components
 - Animals are allowed to be used for certain purposes as long as certain conventions are met
 - Diligent care is very important

Societal View Of Animals

- Pastoralism
- Agrarianism
 - Living close to the land brings out the best in people
 - Cities cause people to become corrupt and disorderly

Societal View Of Animals

- Pastoralism
- Agrarianism
- Romanticism
 - Before 1600, animals were decorations or symbols
 - After 1600, animals became the primary subject
 - Emphasis on nature became more important
 - Animals were depicted with emotions
 - Empathy for/friendship of animals was considered to be positive

Societal View Of Animals

- Pastoralism
- Agrarianism
- Romanticism
- Industrialism
 - “Progress” is highly important
 - Science is key to constantly improving knowledge
 - Productivity is integral
 - Positives – reduced need for hand labor, increased prosperity
 - Negatives – exploited workers
 - Animal production was automated
 - Led to concern about animal welfare

Societal View Of Animals

- Pastoralism
- Agrarianism
- Romanticism
- Industrialism
- These all influence how individuals feel about animals today

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
 - *Dog owners*
 - 66.7% consider dogs to be family members
 - *They go everywhere the family goes*
 - *At least until a major event changes it*
 - New child and dog doesn't like children
 - Death in the family
 - Move to new home

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
 - *Dog owners*
 - 66.7% consider dogs to be family members
 - 32.6% consider dogs to be companions/pets
 - 0.7% consider dogs to be property

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
 - *Cat owners*
 - 56.1% consider cats to be family members
 - 41.5% consider cats to be companions/pets
 - 2.4% consider cats to be property

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
 - *Horse owners*
 - 38.4% consider horses to be family members
 - Other categories
 - *Companion animal*
 - *Performance partners*
 - *Best friends*
 - *Investment*
 - *Livestock*

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
- Views can be positive, neutral, or negative
- Individual views can vary
 - Age
 - Sex
 - Previous experience
 - Animal species
 - Individual animal personalities
 - Concurrent happenings

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
- Views can be positive, neutral, or negative
- Individual views can vary
- Individual's view can vary over time

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Categorized into 8 perspectives
 - Stephen Kellert
 - Social ecologist from Yale University

Individual Views Of Animals

- Aesthetic view
 - Primary interest is in the artistic and symbolic characteristics of animals

Individual Views Of Animals

- Dominionistic view

- Primary interest is in the mastery and control of animals, typically in sporting situations

Individual Views Of Animals

- Ecological view

- Primary concern for the environment as a system, for interrelationships between wildlife species and natural habitats

Individual Views Of Animals

- Humanistic view

- Primary interest and strong affection for individual animals, principally pets

Individual Views Of Animals

- Negativistic view
 - Strong dislike for all animals or are fearful of them

Individual Views Of Animals

- Neutral view

- Primary orientation is a neutral relation to and emotional detachment from animals

Individual Views Of Animals

- Scientific view

- Primary interest is in the physical attributes and biological functioning of animals

Individual Views Of Animals

- Utilitarian view

- Primary concern is for the practical and material value of animals or the animal's habitat

Current Human-Animal Bond

- Our perceptions tend to be based on dogs & cats
- Views can be positive, neutral, or negative
- Individual views can vary
- Individual's view can vary over time
- Important for veterinarians to appreciate that different people view animals differently
 - We advocate for the animal, not the view
 - Avoid “my view is the only correct one”



QUESTIONS?