

The Alternative Line

by Joe Holzer for CNY-PCA Redline Report Copyright 2011 <http://www.holzerent.com>

Ooh La La...

Some things just demand responses. I now understand Driver's Ed with the PCA. According to Dr Kimberley Phillips, a primatologist at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, her studies of MRI tests on female capuchin monkeys can explain why male capuchin monkeys seem to wash with their urine. Really!? It took a huge government funded study to discover that the males' urine had a higher concentration of testosterone when the females were actively seeking males? Has she never heard of internet porn?

I have more than a few questions unresolved. Exactly how did she know the females were "interested", and how did she keep them that way while they had to hold still long enough to get an MRI image? If you have had one, can you tell me where on the continuum from bored to tears to terrified by the clanks of the machine which you are captured within was the "sexually aroused" sweet spot, and how did she know it?

That males will do strange things to attract females I have no doubt. Again, I refer you to internet porn. But having been married to a female for almost 38 years now following what I suspect was a fairly typical dating existence (maybe better described as "begging" ;-), "self-delusional" seems a far better description for most of the seeming enthusiasm exhibited by females in porn which is directed by men than anything remotely resembling "insightful", so I am trying, without very much success, to envision the mechanics and logistics of such a study of monkey behaviors. If you were a monkey, or even a human who had the objective explained to you, how long could you remain aroused while NASA did its "space probing" all around you?

The gist of the good Doctor's prognostication is that male monkeys engage in washing themselves with their urine for much the same reason as we grey haired guys buy Porsches, then decide to participate in Driver Ed. Having made ourselves smell badly, but gotten that slick external sheen, we discover it ain't all it's cracked up to be, and so we want to do something else as long as we're not busy right at this time. So we discover that testosterone may have gotten us there, but adrenalin is what keeps us coming (!) back. As with sex, none of us had any idea WHY we felt compelled to do it the first time. We just DID. But most of use can certainly explain why we STILL feel compelled today, long after the "natural order" has faded into memory. And my opinion suggests that the adrenal high makes me just as much a "junkie" as any meth addict. MY problems stem from the "mind is willing but the body is weak" syndrome ;-)

Quick test; how many of you have no idea what I mean by internet porn? Sure. And how many of you dads out there with 15 year old daughters told them the same thing your wives' dads told them at that same age, and which they, and you, did everything possible to circumvent? I am far from a "liberal" when it comes to social mores, but I'll bet few of you took my pragmatic approach with my daughter at that age; I told her that nature spent the past billion years preparing her to mate, so there was damn little I could expect to do to prevent it, but that Merck, Lilly and a bunch of others had spent the past few decades making motherhood therefrom no longer inevitable, and some latex product makers were doing the same for the probability of SSDs. What MY job really involved was making sure she was as well informed about all that was involved, and all the repercussions therefrom so as to make informed decisions which would not ruin her life. I think I have succeeded, but time will tell.

Drivers' Ed is really little different. Most run groups last longer than most sexual encounters (am I right ladies? ;-) and the afterglow can be every bit as powerful based on the bench racing I observe. It's usually, though not always, a lot less messy as well. And it (thankfully) doesn't involve washing with your urine. Save that for the shower in the evening, and get a two-fer ;-)

