

## THE CONTENT AND MEANING OF ZOO-ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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### ABSTRACT

*The article deals with the Zoo-eco-its logical education its content and meaning. Within this article, it is described the relation between humans and animals, also human-animals bond. Its significance, its beneficial characteristics and human relations with animal nature as a part of environmental issues of the ecology. The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviors essential to the health and wellbeing of both. This includes, among other things, emotional, psychological, and physical interactions of people, animals, and the environment.*

**KEYWORDS:** Zoo-Ecology, Content, Meaning, Education, Human, Animal, Bond, Relation, Nature, Environment, Issues, Behavior, Wellbeing, Emotional, Psychological, Physical. Pets, Horse.

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### INTRODUCTION

While studying zoo-ecology one must be more attentive in describing the term itself. "zoo" includes the animal world. It is very wide issue. And in order to describe environment of the animal world, first of all we have to distinguish the division or the types of the animal world. We know there are two types of animals in nature. They are : [1]

1. Wild animal world;

2. Domestic animal world. Like human's environment, animals also have their own environment. Environment may be different. For example, natural, social, national, governmental, tribal, historical, traditional, local, and family environments. They all differ from each other in content and in meaning.

This article deals with the zoo-ecology and its meaning and content. A lot of scientific investigations have been carried out in this field of science. Practically, zoo-ecological education has its own ways of investigation. [2]

Zoo-ecology is a branch of ecology dealing with the relation of animals to their environment and to other animals.

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In nature animal relationships with human go back to far history. According to the Human – Animal Bond research Institute (HARBI) the human –animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviors that are essential to the health and wellbeing of both. The emotional, psychological, and physical connections people have with the animal world. [3]

Humans have always exhibited a fascination with animals. Ancient cave art in Borneo depicting bovine –type creatures and domestication of animals illustrate how animals have played a significant role in human civilization for thousands of years. While human relationships with animals continue to evolve, there is a wealth of knowledge gathered from the historical and scientific aspects of the human-animal bond. Acknowledging these aspects increases the strength of the human-animal bond and improves the ability of the veterinary team to provide the highest quality of patient care. [4]

What is the Human-Animal Bond?- According to the Human-Animal Bond Research the emotional, psychological, and physical connections people have with animals and the environment are also incorporated into the definition of the human-animal bond. Relationships between human and animals vary, ranging from non-pat animals used in production and service to the most doted upon family pets, with the majority of animals’ owners in the middle of this range. Therefore, relationships and attachments can vary among people and the animals in their lives. These relationships are also situational and conditional, depending on how humans view the animal. For example, a dedicated dog owner may enjoy a medium-rare steak, but balk at the thought of eating horse meat. The historical and scientific context behind the human-animal bond provides a deeper, understanding of the relationships between humans and animals, offers insight into how fulfilling this bond can be, and helps the veterinary team better integrate the bond into clinical culture. [5]

Why animals? – Human’s desire secure connections and will seek attachment from inanimate objects and / or living organisms. Although human attraction toward living entities may vary, people are still interested in learning more about animals. One explanation of this interest and attraction is the biophilia hypothesis introduced by American ecologist E.O. Wilson in 1984. [5]

Biophilia is defined as the human inclination to dixate on various aspects of natural life, combining emotional tendencies for living beings and nature. [6]

The Human-Animal Bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviors essential to the health and wellbeing to both. This includes, among other things, emotional, psychological, and physical interactions of people, animals, and the environment. The veterinarian’s role in the human-animal bond is to maximize the potentials of this relationship between people and animals. [7]

The AVMA recognizes: (1)the existence of the human-animal bond and its importance to client and community health, ( 2) that the human-animal bond has existed for thousands of years, and ( 3 )that the human-animal bond has major significance for veterinary medicine service society, it fulfills both human and animal needs. [8]

Issues related to the human-animal bond are considered by the Steering Community of Human-Animal Interactions (SCHAI ) with staff support from the Animal Welfare Division. The

American Veterinary Medical Association has adopted a range of policies that relate to the human-animal bond. [9]

Mental- Health Benefits of the Human Animal- Bond. The human –animal bond is often used to describe the relationship shared between people and animals. Pet owners know it is so much more than a relationship and anyone who has ever loved a companion animal felt the strength of the human-animal bond. [10]

Our unique relationships with our pets can influence physical, social, emotional, psychological, and mental well-being for us and for them.

Maybe our pets can't tell us how they feel but research can tell us our companions feel the impact of the human-animal bond too. The human-animal bond also benefits our furry companions. Oxytocin is a hormone found in humans, cats and dogs. It is often referred to as "the love hormone" and plays a significant role in human bonding and might help explain how our pets feel about us. Studies have showed an increase in oxytocin levels in dogs after gazing into their owner's eyes and an increase in oxytocin levels in cats playing with their owners. [11]

The emotional strength of the human-animal bond may be difficult to describe to someone who has never shared a relationship with a pet but almost every pet owner recognizes unconditional love as a key component of the bond. Our pets offer friendship and love without judgment; they keep our secrets and listen to our fears, they are quick to forgive us when we make a mistake; and they don't hold it against us (although something I think my cat might hold it against me when I feed him later than usual). The bond we have with our pets can also provide us comfort and a sense of security. [12]

The psychological benefits- The psychological benefits of the human – animal bond have been indirectly recognized for many years. Even Sigmund Freud reportedly had his Chow- Chow, Lofi attend some of his sessions with clients. [13]

Today, the psychological benefits of the human-animal bond are well-known, acknowledged, and actively studied. There are many therapeutic providers that offer animal assisted therapy sessions and many hospitals have a team of therapy dogs that can visit patients in the hospital. Teams of handlers and therapy dogs are often found comforting victims after a major natural disaster and a regular team of therapy dogs could be found on Boylston Street Boston after the traumatic Boston Marathon in 2013. [14]

Although the benefits of the human-animal bond are becoming more recognized.

By society, it's important to acknowledge that everyone's relationship with their pet is unique and special.

Improvement in Mental Health-The human-animal bond has also been known to improve our mental health. Pets can improve symptoms of depression, anxiety PTSD, they can decrease feelings of loneliness. Pets can also improve our physical health. According to the Center for Disease Control ( CDC ) , pet ownership can lower blood pressure and can positively influence our rate of physical activity. [15] Our Compositions help us cope with stress which can improve cardiovascular health, For older adults, the human-animal bond has been directly linked to healthy aging. Pets can decrease isolation and improve social wellbeing among older adults. In settings where pet ownership may not be ideal, visitation from therapy animals can also have a

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significant impact on wellbeing. Therapy animals can improve quality of life for both the handler and the patients that are visited. [16]

Although the benefits of the human-animal bond and becoming more recognized by society, it's improvement to acknowledge that everyone's relationship with their pet is unique and special. Some people may consider their pet to be their best friend, a family member or like a child. Others may rely on their companion as a source of emotional support, a connection to the past, or even hope for the future. Anyone who has ever loved an animal understands the unspoken strength of the human-animal bond. [17]

A few words can be written about other animals-horses. Horses may not love each other in the same capacity of a human loving another human. Certainly feel and- give affection. It is about that any relationship of a horse and human being. [18]

## CONCLUSION

Subsequently, the love you feel for your horse may not be exactly reciprocated. But a horse can certainly feel-and give-affection. It's about trust. Like any relationship, don't rush things. Your horse has to trust you in order to let you get close. It is not easy for a horse. As pray animals by nature, their instincts are to be on guard. Take your time and build up trust between you and your horse. [19]

Longtime horseman Franklin Levinson from "Way of the Horse" writes that "love, respect and trust are basically the same thing for a horse". These things must be earned. His advice to his readers is that horses respect leadership and this can be done by a directing movement on the ground before attempting to ride. "Unfortunately, it is always the first thing done with horses"; he writes, "when it should be the last, gaining knowledge of horses should always be the first thing taught". [20]

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