

Good news for a nonviolent future

A/Professor Piero P. Giorgi
National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies
University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
(formally, University of Queensland)



The study of violence and nonviolence

Current impediments

- ❖ **Wrong beliefs about HUMAN NATURE**
- ❖ **Short-sightedness of history**
- ❖ **Ignorance about biological and cultural evolution**
- ❖ **Poor cultural tradition about asking questions**
- ❖ **Origin of violence? Origin of nonviolence?**
- ❖ **Too much disciplinary specialisation at university**
- ❖ **This topic needs a MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH**

History and War = prejudice about violence



Two ideas about violence = two types of Peace Studies

**HUMAN NATURE IS
VIOLENT**

=

**DIPLOMACY AND
WEAK ATTEMPTS
TO REDUCE VIOLENCE**

**HUMAN NATURE IS
NONVIOLENT**

=

**A NONVIOLENT
REVOLUTION
IS POSSIBLE**

SEVEN SCIENTIFIC PIECES OF EVIDENCE

ORIGIN OF
VIOLENCE

PALAEOLITHIC
ROCK ART

CONTEMPORARY
NOMADIC
HUNTER-GATHERER

WOLF
CHILDREN

**NONVIOLENT
HUMAN
NATURE**

FREUD
DISCONTENT

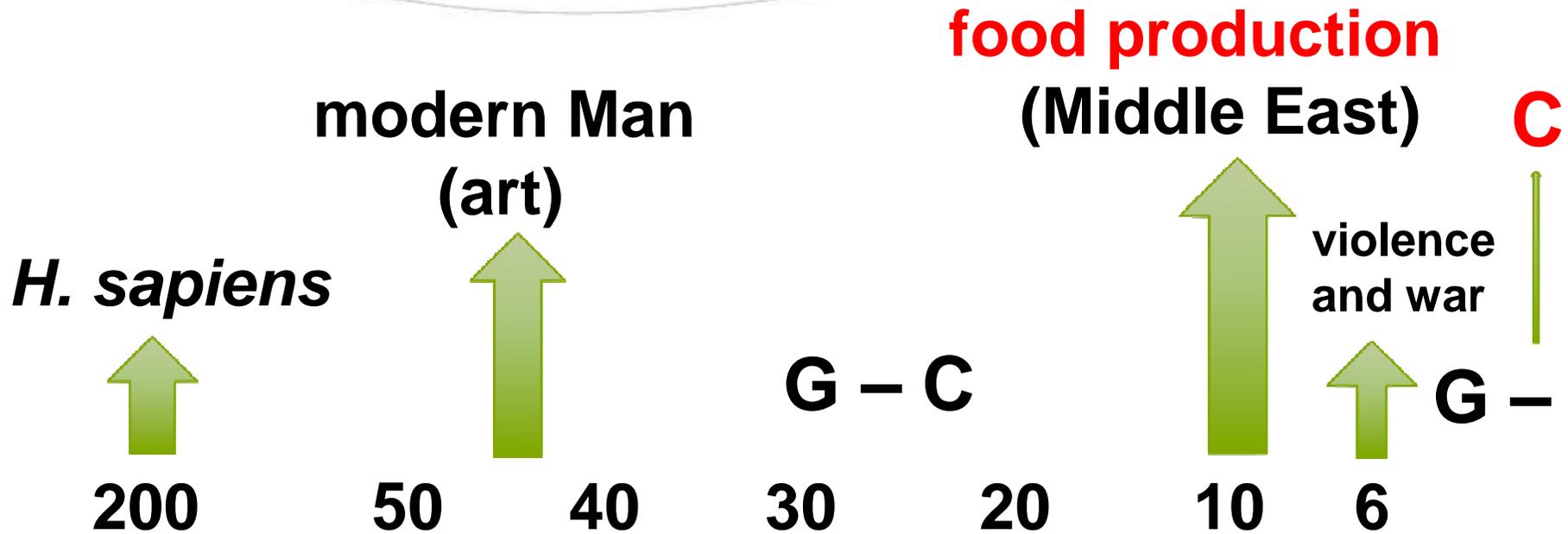
MOTHER
AND CHILD
RELATIONSHIP

BRAIN
DEVELOPMENT

BIO –
CULTURAL
EVOLUTION

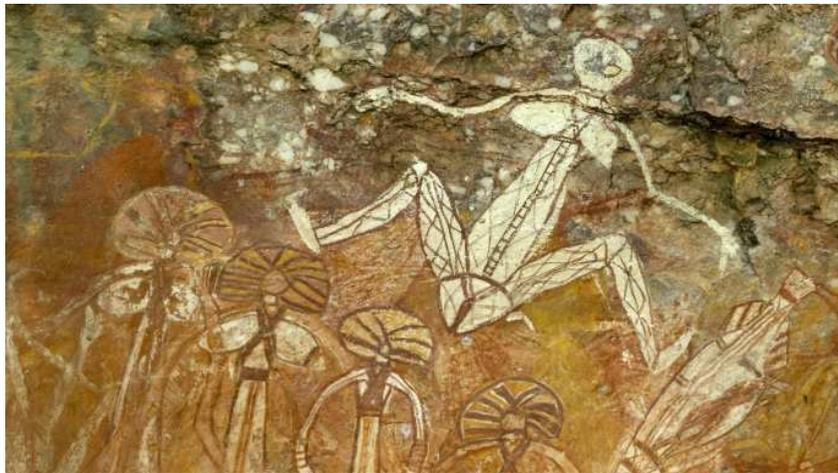
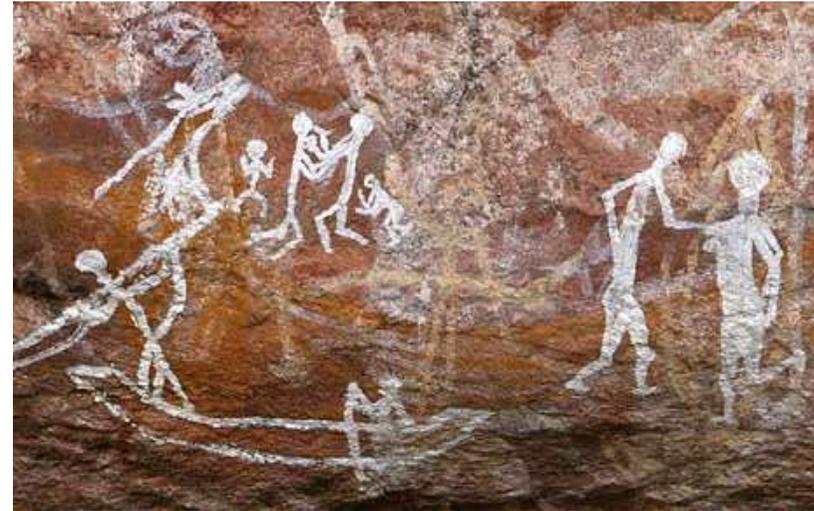
DEFINITION
OF SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR

Before Present



TIME LINE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION
x1000 years BP

40,000 years of rock art without violence



CONTEMPORARY NOMADIC HUNTER-GATHERERS



Social behaviour of contemporary nomadic hunter-gatherers

- # Small communities
- # Women look after children
- # Women collect fruits and vegetable
- # Women hunt small animals
- # Men hunt large animals
- # Everybody is able to find water
- # Respect for natural resources



When a **conflict of interest** appears, members of the community soon consult **to prevent a conflict** (nonviolent solution)

Production of food and violence

- ◆ Production of food was invented three times independently
- ◆ **It led every time to a human tragedy (too large cities, violence, power systems and war). We called it instead civilisation (!)**
- ◆ Middle East 12,000 BP
- ◆ Southern China 9,000 BP
Central America 6,000 BP



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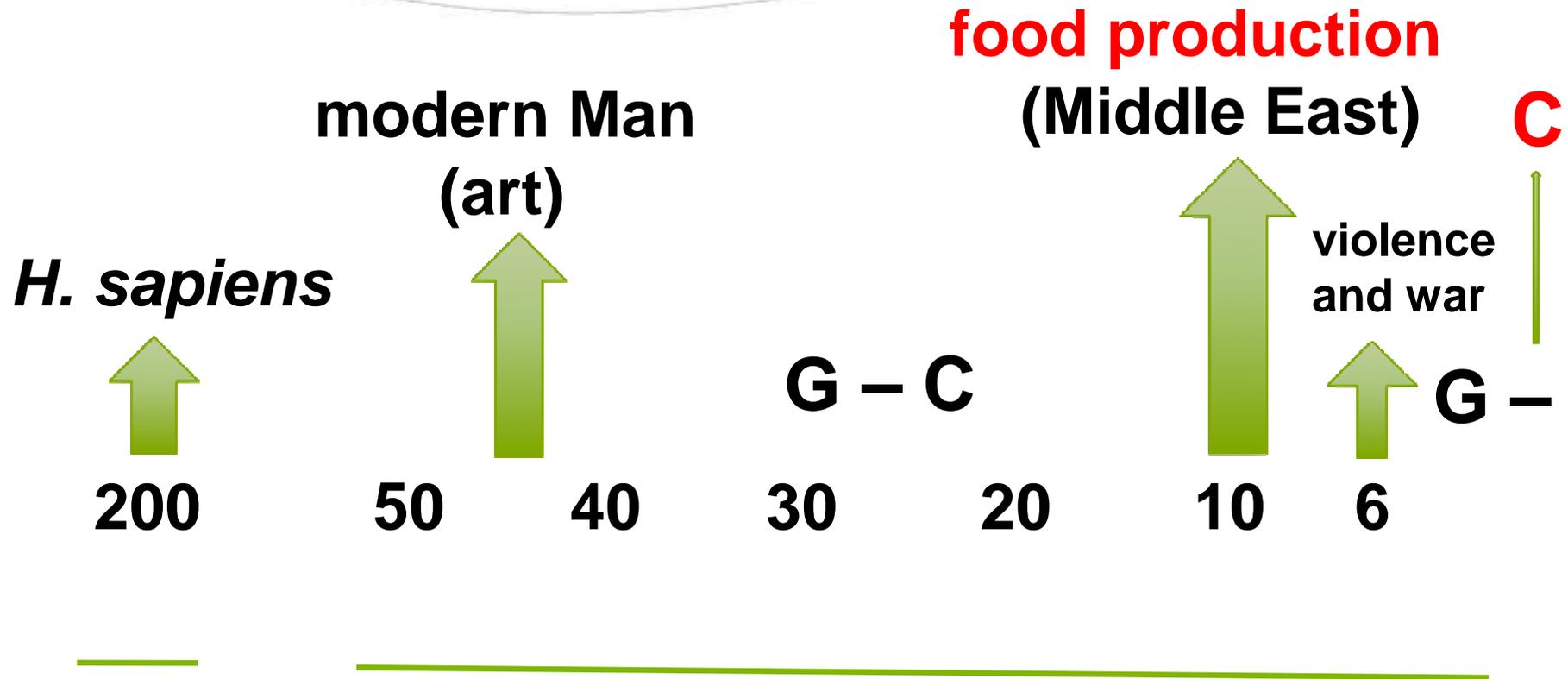
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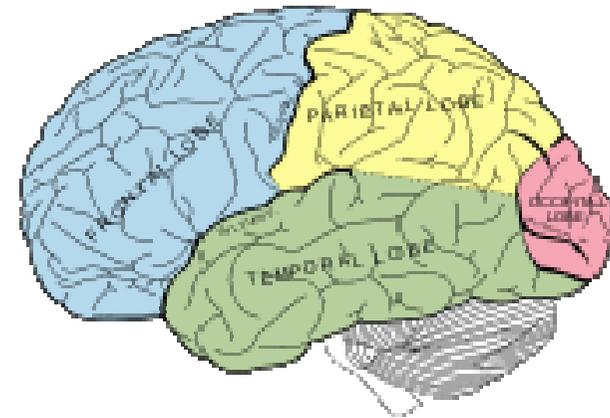
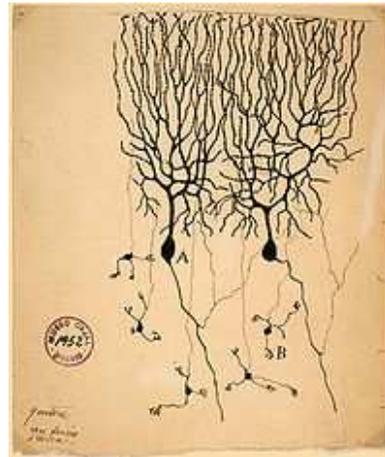
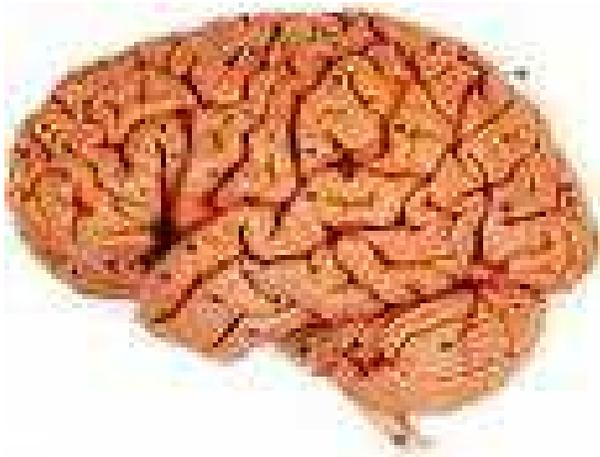
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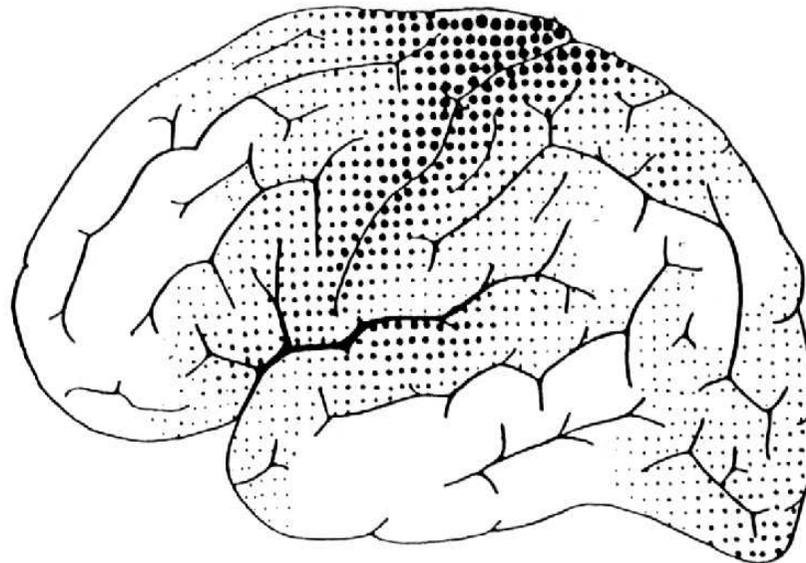


TIME LINE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION
x1000 years BP

Postnatal definition of brain and behaviour



Frontal lobe



One-month
old baby

Cultural diversity



Origin of violence (war) – Valcamonica Italy

Chalcolithic

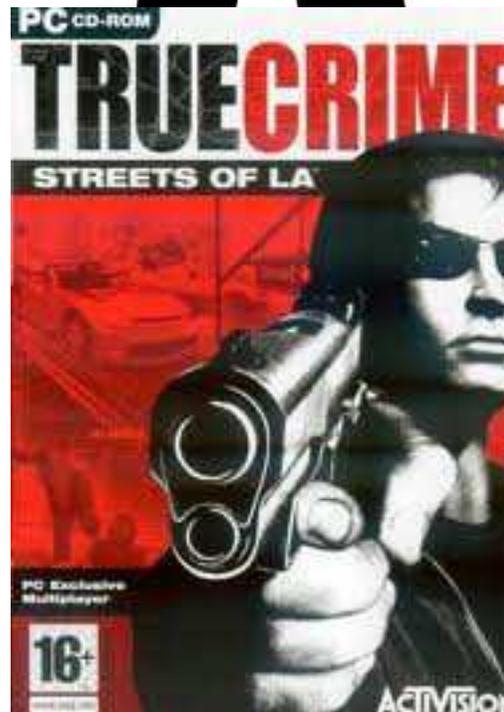


Nurturing by women completes the human being

For many years Dr James W. Prescott has suggested that children should be breast fed for at least two years and need cuddling and stroking by mothers in the first years of their life, in order to express normal **empathy (oxytocin)** **solidarity and cooperation** when adult.



Violent passive entertainment



A COMPARISON

Palaeolithic vs “Civilisation”

◆ Empathy

◆ Solidarity

◆ Cooperation

◆ Nonviolent solutions

◆ Spirituality

◆ Suspicion

◆ Egoism

◆ Competition

◆ Violent solutions

◆ Materialism

◆ **Are we still human beings?**

The possible solution

A nonviolent, slow, legal and local revolution

◆ SHORT – TERM AIMS

- ◆ Help **adults** **just to become aware** of the recent origin and of the cultural origins of structural violence and war
- ◆ Protect **adolescents** from **individualism, consumerism and violent entertainment**

◆ LONG – TERM AIMS

- ◆ Help **adolescents** to **preserve idealism, change life style and to become new parents**
- ◆ Offer **children** **new social models** in order to become nonviolent active citizens
- ◆ Allows **CORRECT** mother–child relationships.

Resolving solution

Love infants at the age of 0 to 5

- ◆ These **little geniuses** acquire very easily bipedal gate, more than one language, and manual skills.
- ◆ This because at the same time **they are establishing nerve connections** for those tasks.
- ◆ If handled as advised by J.W. Prescott, they produce enough oxytocin to become **empathic and nonviolent**.



After sale service



www.pierogiorgi.org

**(see Detailed Academic CV,
then Peace Studies)**

pieropgiorgi@gmail.com

Mobile: (+61) 0423.428344

**Last book: “THE NONVIOLENT
REVOLUTION” (2020) (Italian)
Gabrielli Editori, Verona (Italy)
English version in preparation**