

Special Issue

The Complexity of the Human-Companion Animal Bond

Message from the Guest Editor

Social relationships and early life histories play an important role in the physical and psychological well-being of many animal species. The close relationships some humans form with companion animals can be both beneficial and, in some cases, detrimental, to the well-being of that animal and their human. While numerous studies have examined the benefits of the human-animal bond to humans, few investigations have been performed on the benefits or their lack thereof to the animals. In addition, studies investigating the early life histories and husbandry of animals on future behaviors such as forming beneficial bonds with humans are also sparse. In this Special Issue, studies or review papers exploring the variables important for forming healthy human-companion animal bonds are encouraged. Similarly, studies or review papers examining unhealthy or dysfunctional relationships between humans and companion animals are also encouraged.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2023, ranks 10/80 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 16/167 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.0.

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