

Dans le cadre du séminaire de recherche du Centre de Sciences Cognitives

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donnera une conférence intitulée

# **THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CONFORMITY IN HUMANS AND NON-HUMAN ANIMALS**

### **Résumé**

Conformity, broadly conceived as a tendency through which an individual's attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours become markedly similar to those of other individuals, has long been recognized by social psychologists as one of the main categories of social influence. Surprisingly, it is only recently that conformity has become an active topic in animal studies. I propose to naturalise the notion of conformity by redefining it in a way that is coherent with the social sciences and compatible with more recent studies of animal behaviour and cultural evolution. According to my definition, a behaviour is said to conform when an individual in a group displays that behaviour because it is the most frequent they witnessed in others. Based on this definition, I review and organize the newer literature on conformity in behavioural ecology and evolutionary biology in light of the foundational work in social psychology. I then present experiments that address questions raised by this new take on conformity.

Le jeudi 21 février 2013, à 10h précises

FLSH, Espace Louis-Agassiz 1

Salle B.2.75

Toute personne intéressée est cordialement invitée