Why men may have evolved better than women at reconciling with rivals

Men's historical dominance of the workplace may, in part, be because of their ability to reconcile with enemies after conflict, a new study suggests.

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Studies showed that male and female chimps acted differently in the aftermath of fights, with males much more inclined to engage in reconciliation behaviours.

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[Scientists] looked at recordings of tennis, table tennis, badminton and boxing involving men and women from 44 countries...[A]cross the four sports observed, men spent significantly more time touching than females, in what the authors term "post-conflict affiliation".

The authors conclude that men in these sports are doing exactly what the male chimpanzees are doing – investing more time in patching up their differences so that they can potentially work together down the line.

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Prof Benenson believe that overall, her new work shows that these reconciliation abilities are an "evolved sex difference that still operates today".

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"That men are more likely to reconcile after a conflict supports other studies showing that male-male relationships are generally different than female-female relationships," said Prof Robert Deaner.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: <u>Men may have evolved better 'making up' skills</u>