

1 **Kinship and intra-group social dynamics in two sympatric African**  
2 **colobus species**

3 Tania Minhós<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Cláudia Sousa<sup>4,5</sup> Luis M. Vicente<sup>6</sup> and Michael W. Bruford<sup>1</sup>

4

5 <sup>1</sup> Organisms and Environment Division, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University,  
6 Museum Avenue, CF10 3AX, Cardiff, UK

7 <sup>2</sup> CAPP – Centro de Administração e Políticas Públicas, Instituto Superior de Ciência  
8 Sociais e Políticas, Universidade de Lisboa, Rua Lamerindo Lessa, 1300-663 Lisboa,  
9 Portugal

10 <sup>3</sup> IGC – Instituto Gulbenkian da Ciência, Rua da Quinta Grande 6, 2780-156 Oeiras,  
11 Portugal.

12 <sup>4</sup> Departamento de Antropologia, Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas,  
13 Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisboa, Avenida de Berna, 26-C / 1069-061 Lisboa,  
14 Portugal

15 <sup>5</sup> CRIA - Centre for Research in Anthropology, Av. Forças Armadas Ed. ISCTE - sala  
16 2n7, cacifo 237 1649-026 Lisboa Portugal

17 <sup>6</sup> CESAM - Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies, Departamento de Biologia  
18 Animal, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa, C2-P3 Campo Grande,  
19 Lisboa, Portugal

20

21 Short title: Socio-genetics of colobus monkeys

22

23 Corresponding author: Tânia Minhós; E-mail: [taniaminhos@gmail.com](mailto:taniaminhos@gmail.com); Phone:  
24 +351916754288

25 **ABSTRACT**

26 Kinship has been described as a major factor shaping primates' social dynamics,  
27 with individuals biasing their affiliative interactions to their related counterparts.  
28 However, it has also been demonstrated that, under certain circumstances, social  
29 bonding can be established in the absence of kin. The fact that *Colobus polykomos*  
30 (Western black-and-white colobus) and *Procolobus badius temminckii* (Temminck's red  
31 colobus ) often live in sympatry (subject to the same ecological/anthropogenic  
32 pressures) but exhibit contrasting social systems, makes them good models to test which  
33 factors shape their social systems. We investigated the influence of kinship on intra-  
34 group social dynamics of one focal group of each species present in Cantanhez National  
35 Park, Guinea-Bissau. Between October 2008 and June 2009 we used focal sampling to  
36 collect information on the individuals' nearest neighbors and *Ad libitum* sampling to  
37 collect data on intra-group social interactions. We estimated pairwise relatedness using  
38 fecal DNA from nine *Colobus polykomos* individuals and 15 *Procolobus badius*  
39 *temminckii* individuals genotyped at 15 microsatellite loci. We found that, in the  
40 *Colobus polykomos* focal group, individuals showed no preference to interact or be  
41 spatially closer to related partners. Moreover, mainly unrelated females and related  
42 males composed the *Procolobus badius temminckii* focal group but grooming was most  
43 frequent among female dyads and only rarely involved male dyads. We conclude that  
44 kinship is not an important factor determining the social bonding in either study species  
45 suggesting that other factors (e.g anthropogenic, ecological) may be at play shaping  
46 these groups' social bonding.

47

48 Key-words: colobines; non-invasive sampling; relatedness; time-budgets; social

49 behavior; West Africa

50  
51

## 52 INTRODUCTION

53 Since cooperating with kin increases inclusive fitness, the assumption that  
54 individuals should preferentially address their affiliative and cooperative behavior to  
55 close kin constitutes a starting point for many of the models that attempt to explain the  
56 evolution of primate social systems (e.g. Chapais 2001; Gouzoules and Gouzoules  
57 1987; Hamilton 1964a, b; Silk 1987, 2002;). Accurately testing this hypothesis has been  
58 facilitated by the development of molecular techniques for quantifying relatedness  
59 (Lynch and Ritland 1999; Pamilo and Crozier 1982; Queller and Goodnight 1989). By  
60 allowing the assessment of paternity, kinship and population structures, molecular data  
61 can provide insights into these features of social systems (Di Fiore 2003). For example,  
62 long-term observational studies of chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) communities have  
63 demonstrated the existence of strong affiliative and cooperative bonds among  
64 philopatric males, suggesting that related males exhibit closer affiliation than non-  
65 related females (e.g. Watts and Mitani 2001; Wrangham and Peterson 1996). However,  
66 studies that evaluated intra-community relatedness of chimpanzees showed that the  
67 affiliative and cooperative behaviors observed among males did not arise as a direct  
68 result of kin selection and that other evolutionary mechanisms may be at play (e.g.  
69 mutualism, reciprocal altruism; Gagneux et al. 1999; Vigilant et al. 2001). The same  
70 was demonstrated for *Colobus vellerosus* for which all groups' social dynamics were  
71 female bonded regardless of their relatedness (Wikberg et al. 2012). Cooperation has  
72 also been demonstrated in the absence of kinship in other studies, reinforcing the notion  
73 that intra-group relatedness is not always enough to explain social dynamics (e.g. in

74 primates *Papio cynocephalus*: Bercovitch 1988; Noe 1990; and non-primates *Tursiops*  
75 *aduncus*: Connor et al. 2001 and *Chiroxiphia linearis*: McDonald and Potts 1994). For  
76 instance, an increase in intra-group competition can induce the establishment of social  
77 bonds among non-related individuals in wild primates (e.g. Barton et al. 1996; Lehmann  
78 & Boesch 2009). This clearly suggests that intra-group social dynamics can change as a  
79 result of changes in the socio-ecological context.

80         The increasing changes in natural habitats that result from anthropogenic-related  
81 pressures and climate change, are forcing wild animals to rapidly adapt to poorer  
82 environmental conditions (Hockings et al. 2015; Mortelliti et al. 2010). The extent to  
83 which a species is able to persist in more degraded habitats is highly dependent on its  
84 socio-ecological plasticity (Di Fiore and Rodman 2001, Frankham 2006; Hockings et al.  
85 2015; Villard 2002). Some primate populations have shown the ability to adapt their  
86 dispersal system, group size, home range size, diet composition and/or behavioral  
87 patterns when faced with changing environments (e.g. *Colobus polykomos*: Minhós et  
88 al. 2013a; *Colobus guereza*: Onderdonk and Chapman 2000; *Cercopithecus cephus*:  
89 Tutin 1999; *Procolobus rufomitratu*s: Decker 1994; *Macaca sylvanus*: Ménard et al.  
90 2013, *Colobus galeritus*: Wieczkowski 2005; *Pan troglodytes verus*: Carvalho et al.  
91 2013; Hockings et al. 2012; Sousa et al. 2011).

92         *Colobus polykomos* (Western black-and-white colobus) and *Procolobus badius*  
93 *temminckii* (Temminck's red colobus) exhibit very different social systems despite  
94 being phylogenetically related and often living sympatrically (and thus subject to  
95 similar ecological/anthropogenic pressures), making them excellent models to evaluate  
96 the factors shaping their social dynamics. *Colobus polykomos* live in relatively small  
97 groups, comprising 1-3 adult males and 4-6 adult females (Dasilva 1989; Galat and

98 Galat-Luong 1985). As in all other *Colobus* species, dispersal is thought to be male-  
99 biased with episodes of female migration (e.g. *Colobus polykomos*: Minhós et al. 2013a;  
100 *Colobus satanas*: Fleury and Gautier-Hion 1999; *Colobus guereza*: Harris et al. 2009;  
101 *Colobus vellerosus*: Teichroeb et al. 2009; Wikberg et al. 2012). It has been suggested  
102 that *Colobus polykomos* females only disperse when the cost of staying in their natal  
103 group is high (e.g. inbreeding avoidance: Isbell and van Vuren 1996, Isbell 2004,  
104 Korstjens et al. 2005). Within social units, *C. polykomos* females either maintain closer  
105 relationships with one another than they do with males or exhibit loose social bonds  
106 with no preference to interact affiliatively with other females (Korstjens et al. 2002;  
107 Oates 1977; Struhsaker and Leland 1979). This provides evidence that different  
108 strategies can be adopted by females in response to different ecological and/or social  
109 constraints. Affiliative interactions among males are almost non-existent and they  
110 display a clear dominance hierarchy (Dasilva 1989).

111 *Procolobus badius temminckii* live in large multi-male, multi-female groups that  
112 range from 12 to 65 individuals (Galat and Galat-Luong 1985; Korstjens 2001;  
113 Struhsaker 1975; Struhsaker and Oates 1975;). As in all other red colobus, *P. b.*  
114 *temminckii* dispersal is female-biased, with a patrilineal society (Minhós et al. 2013a;  
115 Starin 1991, Struhsaker 2010,). Social interactions among females are rare and allo-  
116 grooming is more frequent among males (Struhsaker and Leland 1979, Struhsaker  
117 2010). In the highly fragmented Abuko Nature Reserve, The Gambia, Starin (1991,  
118 1994) found lower rates of inter-male grooming and proximity for *P. b. temminckii* than  
119 described for other red colobus populations. Males only cooperated when either an alien  
120 male or a neighboring troop was in proximity. The differences exhibited by the  
121 population from Abuko Nature Reserve compared to other red colobus highlight the

122 importance of understanding the factors shaping these primates' social dynamics.

123 Here we present a socio-genetic study of two sympatric social groups of the  
124 Endangered *Procolobus badius temminckii* and the Vulnerable *Colobus polykomos*  
125 (Oates et al. 2008a,b). We conducted the study in Cantanhez National Park, Guinea-  
126 Bissau, where previous population genetic analysis has shown that dispersal is mainly  
127 mediated by females in *P. b. temminckii* and by both sexes in *C. polykomos* (Minhós et  
128 al. 2013a). Our aim is to understand if kinship is the main factor shaping the social  
129 dynamics of these species. To achieve this goal we examine the relationship between  
130 intra-group relatedness and social bonding. According to the hypothesis that kinship  
131 plays a major role shaping these primates' social systems, we expected individuals to  
132 direct their affiliative behaviors (e.g. grooming) mostly to their related counterparts and  
133 their aggression towards non-related partners. Alternatively, in the case that other  
134 factors (e.g. ecological/anthropogenic) determine intra-group social bonding, we  
135 predicted no correspondence between affiliative or aggressive behaviors and kinship (Di  
136 Fiore 2003; Hamilton 1964a;).

137

## 138 **METHODS**

139

### 140 *Study site and social groups*

141

142 Cantanhez National Park (CNP) comprises a mosaic of savannah, forest and  
143 mangrove habitat and covers an area of 1.067 km<sup>2</sup> (105 767 ha) in the southwest of  
144 Guinea-Bissau (NE limit: 11°22'58''N, 14°46'12''E; SW limit: 11°2'18''S.  
145 15°15'58''W (WGS 84); Fig 1). The park has a high human population density (22,505

146 people distributed through 110 villages) with extensive agriculture (Hockings and Sousa  
147 2013). As a consequence, the forests are severely fragmented comprising several  
148 patches of various sizes (ranging from 47.5 to 250 ha; Simão 1997). The annual  
149 temperature ranges from 28°C to 31°C and the annual rainfall is 2000 to 2500mm  
150 (Simão 1997).

151 We observed one group of *Colobus polykomos* and one group of *Procolobus*  
152 *badius temminckii*. Both groups' home ranges overlapped with a village that is also a  
153 tourist site, though the primates were not provisioned. As a result, the groups were  
154 already partially habituated, allowing observations to commence at the beginning of the  
155 study. Proximity to the tourist site may provide these groups some protection from local  
156 hunters. Even though CNP is a protected area, both colobus species are hunted within  
157 the park. The hunting pressure seems more intense for *P. b. temminckii* than for *C.*  
158 *polykomos* (T. Minhós pers obs; Hockings and Sousa 2013). For *P. b. temminckii*, we  
159 counted a minimum of 27 animals in the group, including three adult males, 10 adult  
160 females, six juveniles and eight infants. However, it was not possible to see all group  
161 members at the same time and accurately determine the size of the group. For *C.*  
162 *polykomos*, we were able to individually recognize all group members. The group  
163 comprised 10 individuals: one adult male, one sub-adult male, four adult females, two  
164 juvenile males, one juvenile female and one infant. By the end of March 2009, the adult  
165 male, sub-adult male, a juvenile male and an adult female with the infant left the group  
166 and did not return so the group was reduced to half of its initial size.

167 *Ethical note*

168

169 We carried out all sampling with the approval and under the legal requirements of

170 the National Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (IBAP) and the Forestry and  
171 Fauna Department (DGFC) from Guinea Bissau.

172

### 173 *Intra-group relatedness*

174

175 We collected fecal samples for all known individuals of the *Colobus polykomos*  
176 focal group and several *Procolobus badius temminckii* individuals for which we  
177 identified the sex and age class. We extracted fecal DNA using the QIAampDNA Stool  
178 Kit following the manufacturer's instructions and stored at -20 °C (Qiagen, Valencia,  
179 CA). We genotyped all samples for 15 human-derived microsatellite *loci*. The  
180 genotyping procedures and the information on the microsatellite *loci* used are described  
181 in detail in Minhós et al. (2013a). In the *C. polykomos* focal group, we were able to  
182 genotype most of the original group: one adult male, one sub-adult male, three adult  
183 females, two juvenile males and one juvenile female. For the *P. b. temminckii* focal  
184 group we were able to genotype 11 adult females and four adult males. We estimated  
185 the relatedness coefficient of Queller and Goodnight (1989) for all intra-group dyads  
186 using Kingroup v2\_101202 (Konovalov et al. 2004). We applied a maximum-likelihood  
187 relatedness estimator, where we only considered the significantly related dyads ( $p <$   
188 0.05) to be truly related. We based these estimates on the allelic frequencies from a  
189 bigger sample of the population (52 *C. polykomos* and 72 *P. b. temminckii* individuals;  
190 for detailed description see Minhós et al. 2013a) and not only from the individuals in  
191 the focal groups. The *C. polykomos* relatedness analyses correspond to the full genetic  
192 characterization of the social group. For *P. b. temminckii*, our data represents minimum  
193 estimates, since there were more adult individuals in the group from which we did not



194 obtain genotypes. We calculated the mean pairwise relatedness for all possible dyads of  
195 individuals and assessed the number of pairs of closely related females and pairs of  
196 closely related males in the group. We do not use our microsatellite panel to make  
197 inferences on the level of relatedness (e.g. parent-offspring, full-or half-siblings), but  
198 only to assess whether a pair of individuals is related or not, regardless of their degree  
199 of relatedness.

200

201

## 202 *Social interactions*

203

204 We collected *Ad libitum* data between October 2008 and March 2009 on a daily  
205 basis (Altmann 1974). We observed each social group on 19 separate days, from 7:00 to  
206 19:00. We alternated observations of the two groups on a weekly basis and recorded  
207 date, time, habitat, location, individual, activity and their partner. We attempted to  
208 record the individual identities or age-sex classes of the interactants, whenever possible.  
209 We collected data continually during the day, every time we observed a social  
210 interaction. For the *Colobus polykomos*, we only used the data prior to the  
211 disappearance of the males from the focal group. Since it was not possible to observe  
212 all group members of *Procolobus badius temminckii* simultaneously, we observed the  
213 largest subset of temporarily adjacent individuals to record the maximum number of  
214 interactions possible. We recorded the following activities: agonism (aggressive and  
215 submissive interactions involving two individuals such as threat, fight, chase, displace,  
216 flea, present), grooming, social fight (aggression involving three or more individuals),  
217 copulation, play and vocalizations. For allo-grooming we considered only one event for

218 each individual even if the grooming direction changed several times. For all behavioral  
219 categories, if the interaction was interrupted for less than 3 minutes, we considered it as  
220 the same event (Korstjens et al. 2002).

221

### 222 *Spatial proximity*

223

224 We only inferred the relationship between spatial proximity and relatedness  
225 among pairs of individuals for the *Colobus polykomos* group, as we did not individually  
226 recognize all *Procolobus badius temminckii* group members. We carried out focal  
227 sampling between March and June 2009. Each focal observation was four hours long,  
228 and three sessions were carried out *per* day. We recorded the identity of the nearest  
229 neighbor (within 3m) of each focal individual every half-hour. When the individual  
230 under the focal observation was out of sight, we paused the sample and continued after  
231 finding the individual again. If the focal individual was out of sight for more than 30  
232 minutes straight, we terminated the focal sampling. We only included focal samples in  
233 the final dataset that contained more than 1h of observation. We sampled all group  
234 members and whenever possible, resampled them following the same order. We never  
235 sampled the same individual twice in the same day and each individual was sampled  
236 during three periods throughout the day (7am-11am, 11am-3pm, 3pm-7pm). We carried  
237 out 276 hours of focal observations on one adult male, one sub-adult male, four adult  
238 females, two juvenile males and one juvenile female.

239

### 240 *Within-species comparisons*

241 We used generalized linear mixed effects models (GLMM) with Poisson error

242 distribution to test for the effects of the sex combination (i.e. male dyads, female dyads  
243 and male-female dyads) on the daily rates of intra-group agonistic and grooming  
244 interactions (Bolker et al., 2009). Here, we considered each observation day as the  
245 sampling unit in both social groups and calculated the mean rate of each social  
246 interaction (i.e. number of times a given social interaction was observed for each sex  
247 combination/total number of observations for that social interaction) across the total  
248 number of observation days. We included the observation days as random factors in the  
249 model and analyzed each variable using a separate univariate model. We carried out  
250 GLMM using the lme4 package in R 2.14.1 (Bates et al.2011; R Development Core  
251 Team, 2012). We tested the statistical significance of the full model (with the sex  
252 combination as the fixed factor) by comparing it to a null model (excluding the sex  
253 combination variable) using a likelihood ratio test (R function “anova”) (Dobson &  
254 Barnett, 2002). We ran analyses for each species separately and only included adult and  
255 sub-adult individuals in this analysis.

256       As we could individually recognize all group members of the *Colobus*  
257 *polykomos* focal group, we were able to test whether grooming, agonistic interactions or  
258 proximity more frequently involved related or non-related individuals. For each animal  
259 we estimated the percentage of times that each social interaction happened with a  
260 related or with a non-related partner. We then calculated the mean of those percentages  
261 for the social group. Each individual had a different number of related and non-related  
262 partners within the group. Therefore, we corrected for this potential bias in partner  
263 availability by dividing the percentage of each social behavior with related and non-  
264 related partners by the total number of available related and non-related partners in the  
265 group. We tested differences using Wilcoxon signed-rank tests implemented in R v.

266 2.12.0 (R Development Core Team 2009). In this analysis, we used all genotyped  
267 individuals except for one juvenile male, as we had very limited data on social  
268 interactions for this individual.

269

### 270 *Between-species comparisons*

271

272 We used GLMMs with Poisson error distribution to test for a species effect on  
273 the daily rates of each intra-group social interaction (i.e. number of observations of a  
274 given social interaction/total number of social interactions observed), as described for  
275 the within-species comparisons. We included observation days as random factors and  
276 species as the fixed factor in the model.

277 As group size in *Procolobus badius temminckii* was much larger than in *Colobus*  
278 *polykomos*, the number of social interactions was much higher in *P. b. temminckii*. To  
279 correct for this bias, we expressed social interaction results as the proportion of each  
280 social activity relative to the total of intra-group observed social interactions for each  
281 observation day. We only included adult and sub-adult individuals in this analysis.

282

283

## 284 **RESULTS**

285

### 286 *Intra-group relatedness*

287

288 In the *Colobus polykomos* focal group, of all 28 possible dyads only 9 (32%)  
289 were significantly related (Table 1). Of those, there was only one dyad of related adult

290 females (Adult female 2 and 3) out of three possible dyads, meaning that one of the  
291 three adult females (Adult female 1) was not related to any other adult female in the  
292 group. Additionally, the adult male was significantly related to two of the adult females  
293 (Adult female 2 and 3) and the juvenile female. The sub-adult male was only related to  
294 the Adult female 1.

295 In the *Procolobus badius temminckii* focal group, of all 55 possible dyads of  
296 adult females only seven pairs were significantly related (12.7%). However, for the  
297 adult males, four of six possible dyads (66.7%) were significantly related.

298

299 *Social bonding*

300

301 *Within-species comparisons*

302

303 When we compared the sexes, there were species differences in agonistic and  
304 grooming events between adults (Fig 2 and 3). In *Colobus polykomos*, we found an  
305 effect of the sex combination on grooming, which occurred at a lower frequency among  
306 male dyads compared to female and mixed dyads (Table 2,  $\chi^2= 9.42$ ,  $P= 0.009$ ).  
307 However, the sex combination did not have an effect on the observed levels of intra-  
308 group agonism, since we found no differences between the model containing the sex  
309 combination factor and the null model ( $\chi^2= 4.25$ ,  $P= 0.119$ ). In *Procolobus badius*  
310 *temminckii*, we found an effect of the sex combination in both types of interactions.  
311 Agonism was lower in female dyads compared to male and mixed-sex dyads (Table 2,  
312  $\chi^2= 7.70$ ,  $P= 0.021$ ). The opposite pattern was true for allo-grooming, which occurred  
313 at higher levels among dyads of females and less among males or individuals of

314 different sexes (Table 2,  $\chi^2 = 14.90$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ).

315 *Colobus polykomos* individuals had more non-related than related partners in the  
 316 group (mean values, Table 3). We found no kin-biases in either grooming (Table 3,  
 317 Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $N = 7$ ,  $Z = -0.51$ ,  $P = 0.61$ ; corrected:  $Z = -0.51$ ,  $P = 0.61$ ) or  
 318 agonistic interactions (Table 3, Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $N = 7$ ,  $Z = -0.84$ ,  $P = 0.40$ ;  
 319 corrected:  $Z = -0.21$ ,  $P = 0.83$ ). Additionally, there was no difference in the time  
 320 individuals were spatially closer to related vs. non-related individuals (Table 3,  
 321 Wilcoxon signed-rank test,  $N = 7$ ,  $Z = -1.15$ ,  $P = 0.25$ ; corrected:  $Z = -0.31$ ,  $P = 0.75$ ). We  
 322 could not apply the same approach to *Procolobus badius temminckii* because we could  
 323 not individually recognize the members of this group.

324

#### 325 *Between-species comparisons*

326

327 For *Colobus polykomos*, we recorded 321 interactions (mean: 16.89  
 328 interactions/day  $\pm$  SD 12.08). For *Procolobus badius temminckii*, we recorded a total of  
 329 828 interactions (mean: 43.63 interactions/day  $\pm$  SD 16.68). Grooming was the most  
 330 frequent social behavior displayed by both species, followed by agonistic interactions  
 331 (Fig. 4, Table 4). Both groups also showed low levels of social fights and copulations  
 332 (Fig. 4, Table 4). Social interactions were not significantly different between the  
 333 species, as demonstrated through the comparison of the model that included the factor  
 334 species with the null model (Table 4, Aggression:  $\chi^2 = 0.28$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.597$ ;  
 335 Grooming:  $\chi^2 = 0.31$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.578$ ; Social Fight:  $\chi^2 = 0.19$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.6575$ ;  
 336 Copulation:  $\chi^2 = 1.99$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.158$ ; Play:  $\chi^2 = 0.66$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.418$ ;  
 337 Vocalization:  $\chi^2 = 0.09$ , d.f. = 1,  $P = 0.769$ ).

338

339

340 **DISCUSSION**

341         The combination of behavioral and genetic data in this study enabled us to  
342 exclude kinship as a determinant factor shaping the intra-group social dynamics of two  
343 sympatric African colobus monkeys.

344         Pairs of related and unrelated females composed the *Colobus polykomos* focal  
345 group with no kin bias in grooming, showing an absence of female-based kin-structure  
346 and social bonding. At the individual level, *C. polykomos* individuals showed no  
347 preference for directing any type of social interaction or maintaining proximity to  
348 related versus non-related partners. Such results clearly demonstrate that, at least in this  
349 particular *C. polykomos* social group, kinship is not the major factor shaping the social  
350 dynamics for either sex. A similar pattern has also been described for a *Colobus*  
351 *vellerosus* population from Ghana (Wikberg et al. 2012). This population was  
352 characterized by great variation in its social system, with some social groups showing  
353 female dispersal, absence of female kin-based structure and social bonding.

354         The *Procolobus badius temminckii* group is characterized by female-biased  
355 dispersal, a male-based kin-structure and female-based social bonding, strongly  
356 suggesting that kinship is not the main determinant for the observed social dynamics.  
357 Although there were some related adult females, their numbers in the group are too few  
358 to explain the extremely high frequency of grooming exchanged between females.  
359 Additionally, if kinship is the main factor shaping this group's social dynamics we  
360 would expect grooming between males to be more frequent, as it is in other studied red  
361 colobus groups (Struhsaker and Leland 1979, Struhsaker 2010). A paucity of male-male

362 grooming was also described for red colobus males in both Abuko (*P. b. temminckii*,)  
363 and Jozani, Zanzibar (*Procolobus kirkii*,) but it was only in Abuko that females also  
364 groomed other females more than they groomed males (Siex 2003; Starin 1991). One  
365 explanation is that females may have transferred into the Abuko group along with other  
366 females from the same natal group (parallel dispersal, van Hooff 2000) (Starin, 1991). If  
367 so, this could mean that females in a group are closely-related and, therefore, strongly  
368 bonded. It is possible that parallel dispersal occurs in *P. b. temminckii* from CNP and  
369 such related females prefer to groom each other instead of grooming non-related  
370 females. However, we suggest that due to the low percentage of related females, parallel  
371 dispersal and kinship among females cannot fully explain the strong social bonding  
372 among these females, similar to what we found for the sympatric *Colobus polykomos*  
373 group. Factors besides kinship, such as high resource competition, may be strong  
374 enough for it to be advantageous for these females to establish strong social bonds with  
375 non-related females.

376         The existence of strong social bonding in the absence of relatedness has already  
377 been shown for *Colobus spp.* elsewhere (Wikberg et al. 2012, 2014). The forest of CNP  
378 is highly fragmented and colobus monkeys are the target of human hunting (Costa et al.  
379 2013; Minhós et al. 2013b; Sá et al. 2013) The fact that these particular groups have  
380 their home range overlapping with the tourist village indirectly protects them from both  
381 humans and others predators (e.g. chimpanzees). Poaching has never been reported in  
382 these groups unlike several other groups in the surroundings (T. Minhós pers obs;  
383 Hockings and Sousa 2013). The hunting pressure combined with the increased forest  
384 loss and fragmentation elsewhere in CNP has caused increased colobus density in this  
385 area, which is likely to increase the intra-group competition for resources, as suggested



386 for *Procolobus rufomitratu*s at Tana River (Decker 1994). Under such a scenario, it may  
387 be that colobus gain immediate benefits (e.g. coalitionary support in resource defense)  
388 by forming social bonds with non-related individuals, which functions as an adaptive  
389 survival strategy in response to anthropogenic changes in the habitat (Chapais 2001;  
390 Seyfarth 1977). Research has described how primate females direct affiliative behaviors  
391 to non-related group members if they provide them with coalitionary support or increase  
392 their opportunities to access limited resources (Seyfarth 1977). For example, female  
393 baboons (*Papio* spp.) showed higher levels of affiliation and coalitions under a scenario  
394 of high intra-group contest competition for food (Barton et al. 1996). Lehmann &  
395 Boesch (2009) also described an increase in social bonding among non-related female  
396 chimpanzees during periods of high intra-group competition.

397 By combining data on social interactions and patterns of intra-group relatedness  
398 we provide evidence that intense ecological and/or anthropogenic-related pressures may  
399 act as major factors shaping intra-group social dynamics in two West African colobus  
400 groups.

401

## 402 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

403

404 This study was financed by a Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia grant  
405 (SFRH/BPD/87396/2012) to T. Minhós. We thank Institute of Biodiversity and  
406 Protected Areas (IBAP) in Guinea Bissau for facilitating fieldwork in Guinea Bissau  
407 and providing logistical support. We thank Forestry and Fauna Department (DGFC) and  
408 Action for Development (AD) for field assistance and permits and National Institute for  
409 Studies and Research (INEP) and Gabinete de Planificação Costeira for providing us

410 with the land cover maps. We are sincerely thankful to Mutaro Galiza, Mamadu  
 411 (Catomboi) and Saido Kuiaté for the great assistance in the field, helping in the data  
 412 collection and the local community for welcoming us. Also to Maria Ferreira da Silva  
 413 and Rui Sá for the great discussions and their insights across all stages of the work. To  
 414 K. Hockings, C. Casanova A. Barata and M. Carmo for the great insights during  
 415 fieldwork, J. Carvalho for the help with statistical analyses. Finally, we thank the  
 416 Associate Editor Dr. James Higham and two anonymous reviewers, D. Starin, K.  
 417 Hockings and R. Xavier for the helpful comments that improved the manuscript quality.

418

419 **REFERENCES**

420

421 Altmann, J. (1974). Observational study of behavior: sampling methods. *Behaviour*, 49  
 422 (3/4), 229-267.

423 Barton, R., Byrne, R., & Whiten, A. (1996). Ecology, feeding competition and social  
 424 structure in baboons. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*, 38(5): 321- 329

425 Bates, D., Maechler, M., & Bolker, B. M. (2011). lme4: Linear mixed-effects models  
 426 using S4 classes.

427 Bercovitch, F.B. (1988). Coalitions, cooperation and reproductive tactics among adult  
 428 male baboons. *Animal Behaviour*, 36 (4), 1198-1209.

429 Bolker, B. M., Brooks, M. E., Clark, C. J., Geange, S. W., Poulsen, J. R., Stevens, M.

430 H. H., & White, J. -S. S. (2009). Generalized linear mixed models: A practical

431 guide for ecology and evolution. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, 24(3), 127–135.

432 Carvalho, J. S., Marques, T. A., & Vicente, L. (2013). Population Status of *Pan*

433 *trogodytes verus* in Lagoas de Cufada Natural Park, Guinea-Bissau. *PloS one*, 8(8),

- 434 e71527.
- 435 Chapais, B. (2001). Primate nepotism: what is the explanatory value of kin selection?  
436 *International Journal of Primatology*, 22 (2), 203–229.
- 437 Chapman, C. A., & Chapman, L. J. (2000). Constraints on group size in red colobus and  
438 red-tailed guenons, examining the generality of the ecological constraints model.  
439 *International Journal of Primatology*, 21(4), 565–585.
- 440 Connor, R.C, Heithaus, M.R, Barre, L.M. (2001). Complex social structure, alliance  
441 stability and mating access in a bottlenose dolphin ‘super-alliance’. *Proceedings of*  
442 *the Royal Society of London B Biological Sciences*, 268 (1464), 263-267.
- 443 Costa, S., Casanova, C., Sousa, C., & Lee, P. (2013). The Good, The Bad and The  
444 Ugly: Perceptions of Wildlife In Tombali (Guinea-Bissau, West Africa). *Journal of*  
445 *Primatology*, 2(110), 2.
- 446 Dasilva, G.L. (1989). The Ecology of the Western Black and White Colobus (*Colobus*  
447 *polykomos polykomos*, Zimmerman 1780) on a Riverine Island in Southeastern  
448 Sierra Leone [Ph.D. dissertation]. Oxford: University of Oxford.
- 449 Decker, B.S. (1994). Effects of Habitat Disturbance on the Behavioral Ecology and  
450 Demographics of the Tana River Red Colobus (*Colobus b. rufomitratu*s).  
451 *International Journal of Primatology*, 15(5), 703–737.
- 452 Di Fiore, A. & Rodman, P.S. (2001) Time allocation patterns of lowland woolly  
453 monkeys (*Lagothrix lagotricha poeppigii*) in a neotropical terra firma forest.  
454 *International Journal of Primatology*, 22 (3), 449–480
- 455 Di Fiore, A. (2003). Molecular Genetic Approaches to the Study of Primate Behaviour,  
456 Social Organization, and Reproduction. *American Journal of Physical*  
457 *Anthropology*, 46(37), 62-99.

- 458 Dobson, A.J. & Barnett, A. (2002) An introduction to Generalized Linear Models. Boca  
459 Raton: Chapman & Hall/CRC Press
- 460 Fleury, M.C., Gautier-Hion, A. (1999). Semi-nomadic ranging behavior in a population  
461 of black colobus (*Colobus satanas*) in Gabon and its ecological correlates.  
462 *International Journal of Primatology*, 20(5), 491–509.
- 463 Frankham, R. (2006). Genetics and landscape connectivity. In K.R. Crooks, M.  
464 Sanjayan (Eds.), *Connectivity conservation* (pp.72-96). Cambridge: Cambridge  
465 University Press.
- 466 Galat, G., Galat-Luong, A. (1985). La communauté de primates diurnes de la forêt de  
467 Tai, Côte d'Ivoire. *Revue d'écologie (Terre Vie)*, 40(1), 3–32.
- 468 Gagneux, P., Boesch, C., Woodruff, D.S. (1999). Female reproductive strategies,  
469 paternity and community structure in wild West African chimpanzees. *Animal*  
470 *Behaviour*, 57(1), 19–32.
- 471 Gouzoules, H. & Gouzoules, S. (1987). Kinship. In B.B Smuts, D.L. Cheney, R.M.  
472 Seyfarth, R.W. Wrangham, T.T. Struthsaker (Eds.), *Primate Societies* (p. 299–  
473 305). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 474 Hamilton, W.D. (1964). The genetical evolution of social behavior I. *Journal of*  
475 *Theoretical Biology*, 7(1), 1–16.
- 476 Hamilton, W.D. (1964b). The genetical evolution of social behavior II. *Journal of*  
477 *Theoretical Biology*, 7(1), 17–52.
- 478 Harris, T.R., Caillaud, D., Chapman, C., Vigilant, L. (2009). Neither genetic nor  
479 observational data alone are sufficient for understanding sex- biased dispersal in a  
480 social-group-living species. *Molecular Ecology*, 18(8), 1777–1790.
- 481 Hockings, K.J., Anderson, J.R., Matsuzawa, T. (2012). Socioecological adaptations by  
482 chimpanzees, *Pan troglodytes verus*, inhabiting an anthropogenically impacted

- 483           habitat. *Animal Behaviour*, 83(3), 801-810.
- 484 Hockings, K.J., Sousa, C. (2013). Human-chimpanzee sympatry and interactions in  
485           Cantanhez National Park, Guinea-Bissau: current research and future directions.  
486           *Primate Conservation*, 26 (1), 57-65.
- 487 Hockings, K. J., McLennan, M. R., Carvalho, S., Ancrenaz, M., Bobe, R., Byrne, R. W.,  
488 et al. (2015). Apes in the Anthropocene: flexibility and survival. *Trends in Ecology &*  
489 *Evolution*, 30(4), 215-222.
- 490 Isbell, L.A. (2004). Is there no place like home? Ecological bases of female dispersal  
491           and philopatry and their consequences for the formation of kin groups. In Chapais,  
492           B., and Berman, C. M. (Eds.), *Kinship and Behaviour in Primates* (pp. 71–109).  
493           Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 494 Isbell, L.A., van Vuren, D. (1996). Differential costs of locational and social dispersal  
495           and their consequences for female group living primates. *Behaviour*, 133(1/2), 1–  
496           36.
- 497 Konovalov, D.A., Manning, C., Henshaw, M.T. (2004). KINGROUP: a program for  
498           pedigree relationship reconstruction and kin group assignments using genetic  
499           markers. *Molecular Ecology Notes*, 4(4), 779-782.
- 500 Korstjens, A.H. (2001). The Mob, the Secret Sorority, and the Phantoms. An analysis of  
501           the Socio-ecological Strategies of the Three Colobines of Tai [Ph.D. dissertation].  
502           Utrecht: Utrecht University.
- 503 Korstjens, A.H, Sterck, E.H.M, Noë, R. (2002). How adaptive or phylogenetically inert  
504           is primate social behaviour? A test with two sympatric colobines. *Behaviour*,  
505           139(2-3), 203–225.
- 506 Korstjens, A.H, Nijssen, E.C, Noë, R. (2005). Intergroup Relationships in Western

- 507 Black-and-White C., *Colobus polykomos polykomos*. *International Journal of*  
508 *Primatology*, 26(6), 1267-1289.
- 509 Lehmann, J. & Boesch, C. (2009). Sociality of the dispersing sex: the nature of social  
510 bonds in West African female chimpanzees, *Pan troglodytes*. *Animal Behavior*.  
511 77(2), 377–387.
- 512 Lynch, M., Ritland, K. (1999). Estimation of pairwise relatedness with molecular  
513 markers. *Genetics*, 152(4), 1753–1766.
- 514 McDonald, D.B. Potts, W.K. (1994). Cooperative displays and relatedness among males  
515 in a lek-mating bird. *Science*, 266 (5187), 1030-1032.
- 516 Minhós, T., Nixon, L., Sousa, C., Vicente, L., Ferreira da Silva, M., Sá, R., Bruford,  
517 M.W. (2013a). Genetic evidence for spatio-temporal changes in the dispersal  
518 patterns of two sympatric African Colobine monkeys. *American Journal of*  
519 *Physical Anthropology* 150(3), 464-474.
- 520 Minhós, T., Sá, R., Ferreira da Silva, M., Wallace, E., Barata, A., Carmo, M.; & Bruford,  
521 M. W. (2013b). DNA identification of primate bushmeat from urban markets in  
522 Guinea-Bissau and its implications for conservation. *Biological Conservation* 167,  
523 43-49.
- 524 Mortelliti, A., Amori, G., Boitani, L. (2010). The role of habitat quality in fragmented  
525 landscapes: a conceptual overview and prospectus for future research. *Oecologia*,  
526 163(2), 535–547
- 527 Oates, J.F. (1977). The social life of black-and-white colobus monkey, *Colobus*  
528 *guereza*. *Zeitschrift für Tierpsychologie*, 45(1), 1-60.
- 529 Oates, J.F., Gippoliti, S., Groves, C.P. (2008a). *Colobus polykomos*. In: IUCN 2010.  
530 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2010.4 <[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)>

- 531 Oates, J.F., Struhsaker, T., McGraw, S., et al. (2008b). *Procolobus badius*. In: IUCN  
 532 2011. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2011.2. [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)
- 533 Onderdonk, D.A., Chapman, C.A. (2000). Coping with Forest Fragmentation: The  
 534 Primates of Kibale National Park, Uganda. *International Journal of Primatology*,  
 535 12(4), 587-611.
- 536 Pamilo, P., Crozier, R.H. (1982). Measuring genetic relatedness in natural populations:  
 537 methodology. *Theoretical Population Biology*, 21(2), 171–193.
- 538 Queller, D.C., Goodnight, K.F. (1989). Estimating relatedness using genetic markers.  
 539 *Evolution*, 43, 258–275.
- 540 R Development Core Team. (2009). R: A language and environment for statistical  
 541 computing. Rel. 2.10.0. Foundation for statistical computing, Vienna.
- 542 Sá, R. M., Petrásová, J., Pomajbíková, K., Profousová, I., Petrzeková, K.J., Sousa, C.,  
 543 & Modry, D. (2013). Gastrointestinal Symbionts of Chimpanzees in Cantanhez  
 544 National Park, Guinea - Bissau With Respect to Habitat Fragmentation. *American*  
 545 *Journal of Primatology*, 75(10), 1032-1041.
- 546 Siex, K.S. (2003). Effects of population compression on the demography, ecology, and  
 547 behavior of the Zanzibar red Colobus monkey (*P. kirkii*) [Ph.D. dissertation].  
 548 Durham: Duke University.
- 549 Silk JB. (1987). Social behavior in evolutionary perspective. In B.B Smuts, D.L.  
 550 Cheney, R.M. Seyfarth, R.W. Wrangham, T.T. Struthsaker (Eds). *Primate*  
 551 *Societies* (pp. 318–329). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 552 Silk, J.B. (2002). Kin selection in primate groups. *International Journal of Primatology*,  
 553 23(4), 849–875.
- 554 Simão, A. (1997). Identificação e delimitação cartográfica dos grandes maciços  
 555 florestais de Cantanhez. Relatório de Missão. Acção para o Desenvolvimento:

- 556 Bissau, Republica da Guiné-Bissau. Acção para o Desenvolvimento, República da  
557 Guiné-Bissau.
- 558 Sousa, J., Barata, A., Sousa, C., Casanova, C. & Vicente, L. (2011). Chimpanzee oil  
559 palm use in southern Cantanhez National Park, Guinea-Bissau. *American Journal*  
560 *of Primatology*, 73(5), 485–497.
- 561 Starin, E.D. (1991). Socioecology of the red colobus in the Gambia with particular  
562 reference to female-male differences and transfer patterns [Ph.D. dissertation].  
563 New York: The City University of New York.
- 564 Starin, E.D. (1994). Philopatry and affiliation among red colobus. *Behaviour*, 130, 253-  
565 270.
- 566 Seyfarth R.M. (1977). A model of social grooming among adult female monkeys.  
567 *Journal of Theoretical Biology*, 65:671–698.
- 568 Struhsaker, T.T. (1975). *The Red Colobus Monkey*. Chicago: University of Chicago  
569 Press.
- 570 Struhsaker, T.T., & Oates, J.F. (1975). Comparison of the behaviour and ecology of red  
571 colobus and black-and-white colobus monkeys in Uganda: a summary. In R.H.  
572 Tuttle (Ed.), *Socioecology and Psychology of Primates* (pp. 103-123). Mouton: The  
573 Hague..
- 574 Struhsaker, T.T., & Leland, L. (1979). Socioecology of two sympatric monkey species  
575 in the Kibale Forest, Uganda. In J. Rosenblatt, R.A. Hinde, Colobus Beer, M.C.  
576 Busnel (Eds.), *Advances in the Study of Behavior*, vol. 9 (pp. 158-228), New York:  
577 Academic Press.
- 578 Struhsaker, T.T. (2010). *The red colobus monkeys: variation in demography, behaviour*  
579 *and ecology of a endangered species*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.



- 580 Teichroeb, J.A., Wikberg, E.C., Sicotte, P. (2009). Female dispersal patterns in six  
581 groups of ursine colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*): infanticide avoidance is important.  
582 *Behaviour*, 146(4-5), 551-582.
- 583 Villard, M.A. (2002). Habitat fragmentation: Major conservation issue or intellectual  
584 attractor? *Ecological Applications*, 12(2), 319-320.
- 585 Vigilant, L., Hofreiter, M., Siedel, H., Boesch, C. (2001). Paternity and relatedness in  
586 wild chimpanzee communities. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*,  
587 98(23), 12890-12895.
- 588 Watts, D. & Mitani, J. (2001). Boundary patrols and intergroup encounters among wild  
589 chimpanzees. *Behaviour*, 138(3), 299–327.
- 590 Wiczowski, J. (2005). Examination of Increased Annual Range of a Tana Mangabey  
591 (*Cercocebus galeritus*) Group. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*,  
592 128(2), 381-388.
- 593 Wikberg, E.C., Sicotte, P., Campos, F.A., Ting, N. (2012). Between-group variation in  
594 female dispersal, kin composition of groups, and proximity patterns in a black-and-  
595 white colobus monkey (*Colobus vellerosus*). *PloS one*, 7(11), e48740.
- 596 Wikberg, E. C., Ting, N., & Sicotte, P. (2014). Kinship and similarity in residency  
597 status structure female social networks in black-and-white colobus monkeys  
598 (*Colobus vellerosus*). *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 153(3), 365-  
599 376.
- 600 Wrangham, R.W., & Peterson, D. (1996). *Demonic males*. New York: Houghton  
601 Mifflin.
- 602
- 603
- 604

605  
606