

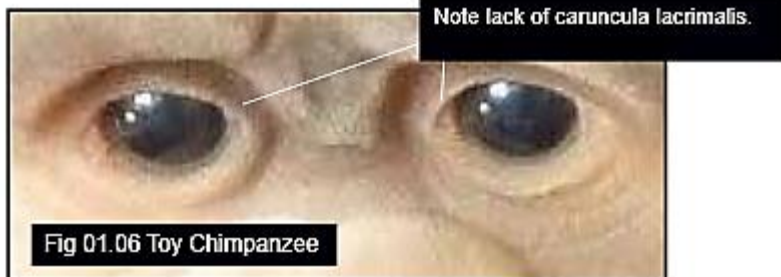
A BRIEF AND LIMITED RESPONSE TO THE FALCONER AND POLING REPORT

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This review is not intended to be an exhaustive comprehensive critique and evaluation of the report written by Daniel Falconer and Phil Poling. In spite of any expertise or experience these gentleman may bring to bear on this matter, I was rather surprised by many of the interpretations and conclusions drawn by them. Counter examples and reasonable alternate explanations could be readily identified and are enumerated and illustrated below. I have not drawn any definitive conclusions myself at this time, but merely wish to point out reasonable alternative interpretations for the majority of the concerns raised by Falconer and Poling. Their “critical examination” is far from damning. Proper and thorough analysis has yet to be conducted on the raw footage.

Examination of the Eyes and Eyelids

- Falconer and Poling (F/P) raise justified concern over the lack of perceived movement of the eyes.
 - The eyes are however rather dark with apparently pigmented sclera potentially making subtle eye movement less obvious.
- F/P Object to the perceived lack of the caruncula lacrimalis at the nasal terminus of the eye.
 - The examples provided by F/P do not account for the variation in appearance of this anatomy across hominoid taxa nor the effect of angle, lighting , etc. on the potential appearance of this anatomy.
 - The accompanying figures illustrate depictions of varied sets of hominoid eyes that resemble the appearance of the eyes in video 4.
 - The comparison to a toy is unjustified:







The Wink in Video 5

- F/P object to the perceived involvement of the brow in the wink (while acknowledging it is difficult to even determine if there is a blink occurring at the moment in question) describing a stereotypical blink involving only the lids.
 - There is a great deal of individual variation in the manner of blinking, as well as circumstantial influences. Some individuals frequently blink more forcefully with aspects of squinting. Vigilance behavior may reduce the frequency of blinks. Drying of the eyes due to temperature, humidity and/or wind all influence variation in blinking.
- F/P raise concern over the depression of the brow occluding the eye, without apparent involvement of furrows or creases in the surrounding skin.
 - The brow and skin to the lateral side of the eye are obscured with hair. Regardless, the objection is unjustified as illustrated in the several accompanying examples.



Skin and Fur/Hair

- F/P contend that the face of video 4 doesn't match anything in humans or higher primates, rather resembles flocking.
 - I am not certain exactly what the surface of the skin is covered with, nor do I think can they be certain. It could be fine hair -- even on the eyelids. There are follicles for hair growth over the entire face.

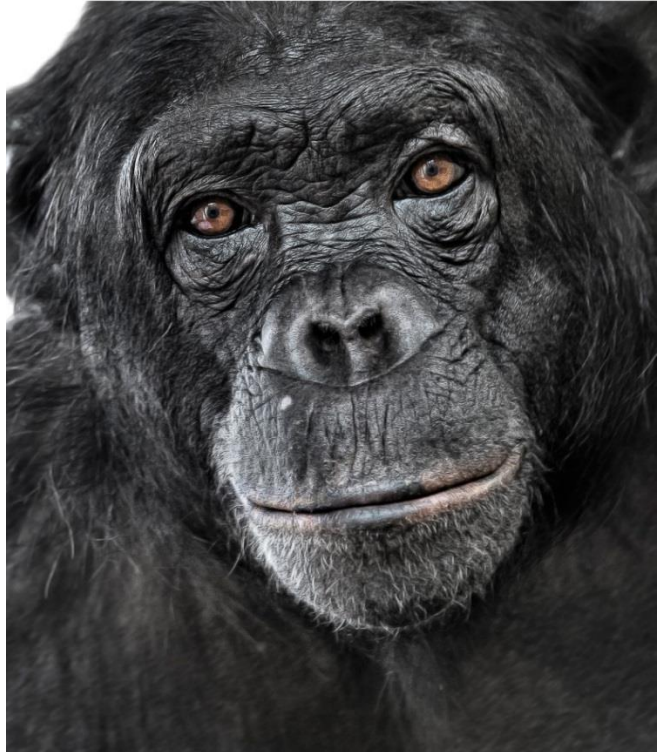
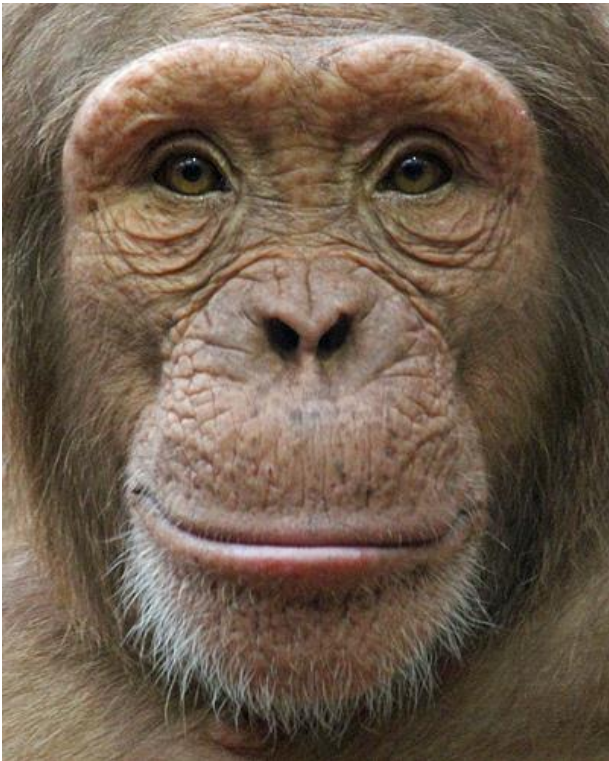
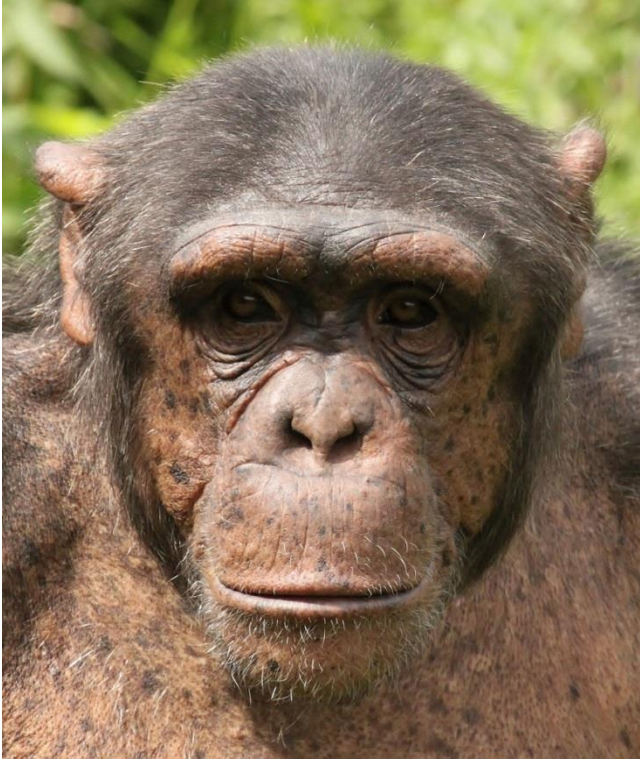


- As for the “glue residue” apparent to F/P at the margins of the lips, see discussion below of chapping.

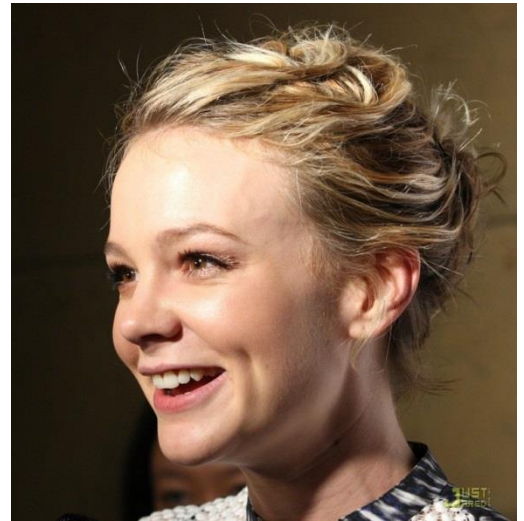
Hair Growth Patterns

- F/P are concerned with perceived inconsistencies in the hairiness of the subjects in Videos 4 and 5.
 - Such differences could be accounted for by differences in gender, age, relatedness, health, etc.









- Certainly differences in hair color and distribution and texture are present in human populations.



Lips and Mouth

- F/P express concern over the dry appearance of the lips and liken it to the look of painted foam latex.
 - Another potential explanation for the appearance of the lips is chapping of everted lips due to exposure

Fig 04.03 Video 4 subject



Fig 04.05 Video 4 subject



Nasal Anatomy

- F/P assert that an “unnatural” looking line at the base of the nose indicates a seam or join between the nose and face, such a feature never being present in humans or hominoids where the nasal septum blends smoothly onto the face.
 - In fact, even disregarding the effects of shadows on the appearance of such a line, the anatomy of this region is quite varied and little effort is needed to find numerous photographic examples of lines resembling those and/or examples lacking a smoothly transitional septum onto the upper lip.



Fig 05.01 Video 4 subject





Bridge of the Nose

- F/P contend that the wrinkling over the bridge of the nose lacks any natural variation, etc.
 - A series of suppositions are made about this point, none of which can be justified. Such transverse wrinkles are common in aged humans and in hominoids. To the extent they can be seen on the subject in Video 5, they look perfectly natural. There are numerous additional wrinkles about the eyes. The remainder of the face is covered with hair.







An Uncanny Likeness?

- F/P place significance on the perceived similarity between the face in Video 5 and that of Todd Standing himself.
 - When I first viewed this morphing demonstration on-line, I was hosting a documentary film crew, shooting in my lab. I asked them to look at it. Before even explaining the context, they unanimously responded that you can do that with just about any face. So it was no surprise to learn that someone had indeed done it with another face -- President Obama.





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=haKHnEkmDDo>