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**“Withholding information in semifree-ranging Tonkean macaques:
a reappraisal of conclusions”**

The ability of Tonkean macaques (*Macaca tonkeana*) to deceive partners about the location of hidden food was investigated. Subjects were four immature males belonging to a group raised in a 2-acre park. Subjects had to find the location of a food source either alone or paired. Before releasing subjects in the search task, the experimenter prompted one of the subjects to observe where the bait was hidden. When paired, one of the subjects remained uninformed about the bait location. We found that when informed, higher-ranking subjects did not significantly alter their search patterns whether tested alone or paired. The same held for subordinates belonging to pairs featured by weak dominance asymmetry. To the contrary, strongly dominated subordinates modified the number of pauses when searching in pairs; they used tactics such as avoid being followed, stop when being watched, or take a wrong direction when being followed, thus withholding information. Some years ago, we explained these behaviors by the occurrence of associative learning and the use of simple cues. Such conclusions will be re-examined in view of the results of studies pointing at the ability of monkeys to make inference about the perceptions of others.