

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2021
Reading questions #10
Due Wed, Jun 16th (though Thursday is fine)

1) Read the excerpts from E.O. Wilson's *Sociobiology*. At the beginning of the section on ethics, Wilson says "Scientists and humanists together should consider together the possibility that the time has come for ethics to be removed temporarily from the hands of philosophers and biologicized." What does he mean by "biologicized" here? Does this seem like a good idea to you?

2) Read the excerpts from David Barash's book *Sociobiology and Behavior*. Barash suggests that, "women tend to concentrate their reproductive interests upon men who are socially, economically, and educationally above them." The idea is that women care more than men do about the social status of their partners and that men care less – and in fact, men may even be threatened by a woman who is too accomplished. Barash was writing a long time ago (the book was published in 1977) and there has been a lot of social change since then. Thinking about men and women in your age group in the United States today, do you think these generalizations are still true?

3) After reading the chapters, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapters.