

# Whip it good

I'm seeing hyper-social everywhere now, after reading this in *Scientific American*:

*How Homo sapiens Became the Ultimate Invasive Species*, by Curtis Marean.

"Many human species have inhabited Earth. But ours is the only one that colonized the entire planet. A new hypothesis explains why."

The hypothesis is that a relatively recent evolutionary funnel shaped us to be hyper-social creatures, an indomitable force marching out of Africa:

"Everywhere *H. sapiens* went, massive ecological changes followed. The archaic humans they encountered went extinct, as did vast numbers of animal species. It was, without a doubt, the most consequential migration event in the history of our planet."

Some threads drawn from and around this:

Our huge energy-hungry brains, and radically differing facial features serve a purpose of forming and managing alliances and identifying insiders and outsiders.

Humans excel at altruism. Also at spite and schadenfreude.

The open hand gesture is a universal sign of peace, yet human hands uniquely and instantly can be weaponized as fists, against which male facial physiognomy is armored.

Hyper-sociability is Shiva and Brahma, tearing down and building ever higher.

World War I, precipitated by Archduke Ferdinand's assassination, was an astounding and furious alignment of us and them forces. Many historians still do not know how this came about.

"We have met the enemy and they is us." --Pogo.

It is wise to think before plunging in. "The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity." --Yeats.

Technology fertilizes the growth of institutional golems:

*Feral edifices are awakening on the planet  
mosaics made of fragments of frightened people  
tribes once profiting by mimicing machines  
now caught inside.*

Those of us who are cursed to see must yield all hope of ever to be.

See also the articles "[Why they hate us](#)" and "[Human betrayal drove rapid spread of our species](#)".