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## **Dedication**

I thank my parents for supporting me throughout all my studies, especially for their prayers which helped me daily.

I thank my partner, my friend, my love, my wife Hidayet, for here unconditional support and understanding, to my two baby girls, my princess “Marewa” and my new born flower “Ritadj”, God bless you all

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To my friends: Mr Amine Belaid, Ms BerrahmaHadjer, Ms Djamilabelkhatir, Ms Bousmaha Amina, Ms Sahilkram... they offered me their precious friendship without expecting anything in exchange, they are the secrete of my success in my master, I love them as if they are my closest family and I will be forever in their dept. you are for sure truly my “Master Love”

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## **Abstract**

“Charles Darwin” a brilliant geologist, after years of research and observation, promoted some new theories mainly about origin and evolution of species. Those theories provoked a lot of controversies in the society, between acceptance and refusal. As a chain reaction, some new scientists have developed the concept to a philosophy, by using it to explain some major events and actions of the human being. This Extended Essay aims to put forward one of the most influential philosophies that affected the whole world by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first mid of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Social Darwinism. It also attempts to puzzle out symbols of this philosophy in science fiction cinema by choosing ‘Planet Of Apes ‘as sample analysis ; highlighting by that the influence of the Social Darwinism in the modern time.

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## General introduction

The love of wisdom changes the way of thinking or the way to face moral situations and seeks to understand the mysteries of existence and reality. The mother of all sciences is thus a form of inquiry, a process of analysis, criticism interpretation, and speculation. It's possible to see how philosophy can influence the human perception of his environment through his behaviour and reaction.

Since its inception in the early 1900's, the film industry has grown and evolved rapidly. Over the years, it has gained the attention of every culture in every part of the world. These days, thanks to Hollywood, it is instrumental in shaping the social culture by transforming the viewers' opinions or swaying them one way or another. The idea that a film can have such an enormous impact on people can be difficult for some; however, this same impact can also be a great tool when used properly and for the right reasons.

Media and film industry have an important role in a, emotions, feelings, jeopardizes our beliefs, they have changed through years thanks to technology, although their effect is still the same or even more. Nowadays, Films are important in man's daily life. Alejandra Rojas said that Films affect and influence our sensory stimuli through Which is affected by Ways of knowing involved That is expressed by Reason Finally by seeking clarity through How different genres of Films affect human emotions and perception. Gene Roddenberry, the creator of Star Trek said that for him science fiction is a way of thinking, a way of logic that bypasses a lot of nonsense. It allows people to look directly at important subjects. Science fiction is an expansive genre that explores the impact of imagined or actual science on society. A platform inspires curiosity through stories that demonstrate what could be created and what could become of society.

Science fiction is a way to explore place in the universe and consider fundamental philosophical questions about the nature of reality and the mind. It can be considered as a source of inspiration for ambitious people like Edwin Hubble, the man who provided strong evidence for the "big bang theory" and the first who

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proved the existence of other galaxies, he was inspired to become a scientist after reading Jules Verne novels. Science fiction is the only genre that depicts how society could function differently. This is the first step towards progress as it allows us to imagine the future we want, and consider ways to work towards it. It also makes us aware of futures we wish to avoid, and helps us prevent them.

Of all of the parts of society, the field of technology is the most impacted by science fiction. Multiple fields including communication, home entertainment, space travel, and transportation are improved because of the fantastical ideas presented in the science fiction genre, in fact it is exciting to watch fantastical ideas turn into tangible realities, for example the cell phone is credited to the "communicator" that was used in the television series Star Trek. The communicator allowed Captain Kirk to wirelessly contact other starships throughout the galaxy. The inventor of cell phones, Martin Cooper credits Star Trek as the major source of inspiration

In the late 1960's and early 1970's knew the birth of two extraordinary films in science fiction: "A Space Odyssey" and "Planet of the Apes", they mark their places as major works of the genre, in this memoire we are precisely interested to the second one "planet of apes 1968" since that he helped in the evolution of the science fiction movies to big budget movies, sagas, and fictional series. In fact, a lot of controversies and critics faced de film, especially that the main idea was to change the natural places between humans and apes, for this, we are going to depict "social Darwinism" aspect s in the plot , we are going to see how this philosophy is implanted within the characters and around them.

Planet of apes plays the role of a mirror of what was happening at that time in the social or political environment, in fact, we find poverty, racial discrimination, wars...; some questions are prominent for the analysis: the can planet of apes be considered as a visual aspect of a philosophy like that of the Social Darwinism ? What is Social Darwinism? How it is illustrated in the film? To answer those questions we have divided our memoire in two main chapters: in chapter one, we are going to deal with the theoretical part, in other words, we will explain some of

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what Social Darwinism is about. In chapter two, the practical part, we will introduce the film “Planet of Apes 1968” in different angles, and analyse the “social Darwinism” in it.

### 1.1. Introduction

The vision about the world has changed according to the great changes that occurred since the 19th century and until nowadays thanks to contribution of and the role played by thinkers philosophers and scientists the name of Karl Max, Sigmund Freud, Albert Einstein whose biographer Abraham Pais said that Einstein’s theories have profoundly changed the way modern men and women think then he corrected his sayings, that It would actually be better to say ‘modern scientists’ than ‘modern men and women, and that, in order to understand and appreciate Einstein’s contributions we have to be equipped physicist’s style of thought and mathematical techniques, indeed, this limitation prevent ordinary average people for understanding the extraordinary theories of modern physics and apprehends the world.

It’s a quite different matter when talking about the concepts in biology, a lot of biological ideas proposed in the late 150 years stood in a sharp conflict with what everyone believed to be true, to accept this ideas an ideological revolution was needed in the minds of those ordinary average people, we can assume that no biologist has made that much of changing as Charles Darwin did, he revolutionized the worldview of ordinary people.

Darwin’s accomplishments were so many and so diverse that it is useful to distinguish three fields to which he made major contributions: evolutionary biology; the philosophy of science; and the modern zeitgeist. Although I will be focusing on this last domain, for the sake of completeness I will put forth a short overview of his contributions—particularly as they inform his later ideas—to the first two areas.



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## 1.2. Charles Darwin's Biography

Charles Robert Darwin was born in England on the 12th of February 1809, he died on the 19th of April 1882. He was the fifth of six children born to Robert Darwin (1766-1848) and Susannah Wedgwood-Darwin (1765-1817). Susannah died when Charles was only eight years old. He is the grandson of two prominent abolitionists: Erasmus Darwin (father's side) and Josiah Wedgwood (mother's side), both families were Unitarian (one God), Charles, when eighteen years old, studied natural history and collecting in 1817, that July, his mother died.

Darwin excelled at Pritchard's school and he won a scholarship to study at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1825 he spent the summer as an apprentice doctor with his father, before going to the University of Edinburgh Medical School( the best medical school at that time), at his second year he joined Plinian Society<sup>1</sup>. He assisted Robert Edmond Grant's investigations of the anatomy and life cycle of marine invertebrates in the Firth of Forth<sup>2</sup>, Darwin neglected his medical studies, and annoyed his father so he sent him Christ's College, Cambridge, to study for Bachelor of Arts degree in order to be priest(an anglican parson), but he was not interested to .He became friend with botany professor John Stevens Henslow (6 February 1796 – 16 May 1861) and met some of the leading naturalists-priest who saw scientific work as religious natural theology<sup>3</sup>.

Darwin was influenced with logic of William Paley's(July 1743 – 25 May 1805) Evidences of Christianity and studied Paley's Natural Theology or Evidences of the Existence and Attributes of the Deity (first published in 1802) explaining that God acting through laws of nature, he read a lot of books, and travelled a lot in order to make field-studies. In 1884 Darwin married Maud du Puy; they had four

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<sup>1</sup> a club at the University of Edinburgh for students interested in natural history

<sup>2</sup> is the estuary or firth of Scotland's River Forth, where it flows into the North Sea, between Fife to the north and Lothian to the south  
<sup>3</sup> Theology is the critical study of the nature of the divine. It is taught as an academic discipline, typically in universities, seminaries and schools of divinity

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children, two boys and two girls. Their eldest son Charles was Fourth Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos<sup>4</sup> of 1909

He is a naturalist geologist who changed our vision about ourselves as humans and the world around us through his theories about evolution and natural selection. Despite the fact that we do not accept Darwin's conclusions today, he is important in being the first to apply mathematical techniques to study the evolution of the Sun-Earth-Moon system.

Charles Darwin is centrally important in the development of scientific and humanist ideas because he first made people aware of their place in the evolutionary process when the most powerful and intelligent form of life discovered how humanity had evolved. The theory of evolution by natural selection was first put forward by Darwin in *On the Origin of Species*... 5

Darwin's ideas created a lot of controversies concerning their impact on various scientific, religious and philosophical viewpoints. Although the majority of the people believed in the coherence of the theory of evolution, they are some who still questioning it, despite the wealth of evidence supporting it. Darwin suffered from a range of illnesses, but this did not impeach him in his task, he continued with his research and undertook new experiments to help support his ideas while at the same time forming new ones in other fields. Other famous works by Charles Darwin include: 'The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals' 1872, 'The The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex' 1871 , 'The Power of Movement in Plants' 1880 and 'The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms' 1881.

In his book "On the Origin of Species" published on 24 November 1859, he explained with evidences his theory of natural selection and became a reference in the field of evolutionary biology. Darwin not only did develop the idea of natural selection, he also supported it with evidence from his detailed research which

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4 At the University of Cambridge, is any of the undergraduate examinations that qualify an undergraduate for a bachelor's degree(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tripos>) seen on 23/08/2016

5 [https://leakeyfoundation.org/page/35/?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=11275-seen](https://leakeyfoundation.org/page/35/?option=com_content&view=article&id=11275-seen) seen on 25/07/2016

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included a five year voyage on the HMS Beagle<sup>6</sup> with Captain Robert FitzRoy. On this voyage, Darwin visited diverse regions such as Brazil, Chile, Australia, the Falkland Islands and the Galapagos Islands.

In<sup>7</sup> Darwin's character is described:-

“Personally Sir George was a most hospitable and pleasant companion, a man of the highest intellectual honesty, but widely tolerant of the diverging views of some of his friends. ... His health was never robust, and he wisely never squandered his time on the details of academic reform, but for the principles he cared and for them he fought.”

### **The Theory of The Origin of Species**

The church had implanted the idea that God made man in his image and by this the assumption that man is a great achievement, this granted humans a moral status superior to that of any other God's creatures on earth. It regards only human life as sacred as written in the Bible : “-26Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth”.<sup>8</sup>

Therefore in 1838 Darwin wrote these words in his red note book, twenty-one years before he published *The Origin of Species* he said: “Man in his arrogance thinks himself a great work worthy the interposition of a deity. More humble and I think truer to consider him created from animals.” That is what people feared most

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<sup>6</sup> HMS Beagle was a Cherokee-class 10-gun brig-sloop of the Royal Navy, one of more than 100 ships of this class ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Beagle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Beagle))

<sup>7</sup> Obituary in *The Times* (is a British daily (Monday to Saturday) national newspaper based in London) seen on 28/07/2016

<sup>8</sup> New American Standard Bible

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about Darwin, that God did not create man by his image, he is not a supreme and sacred creation and he is not above the rest of natural life but created from animals, he was no longer occupying a special place in creation; Instead, human must realize that they are products of the same evolutionary forces, working blindly and without purpose that shaped the rest of the animal kingdom. They are born; live and die, just like any other creature. “Any belief that human beings have some transcendent moral purpose would seem to be nonsense”<sup>9</sup>. Darwin was not the first to theorize that man was descended from animals, Greek philosophers such as Anaximander and Empedocles had advanced this view as early as the 6th century

As the Darwin’s ship aboard the Beagle from 1831 to 1836, he had the opportunity to study the wildlife of the Galapagos Islands. He found there a variety of life, he was specially attracted to finches (bird of the family Fringillidae), whose beaks were all highly adapted to their particular lifestyles, he assumed that there must be a process that led to this adaptation, and he spent a lot of time trying to understand it, even when returning back home, he brought numerous dead ones to continue those researches.

Darwin, after his friend’s urging, put his thought in writing in a 490 pages "abstract" that he entitled *On the Origin of Species*. After woods, in 1859, he published the book. He was able to demonstrate the scientific basis for evolution: a concept which he called 'natural selection'. By observing different species, Darwin saw that there is variation in every population and that within these groups there is competition for limited resources such as food, water and shelter from predators. The creatures that survive this 'struggle for existence' pass on their favorable heritable traits to their offspring, and because more offspring are produced than can survive, this process of 'natural selection' continues. The process later became popularly known as 'the survival of the fittest'. “Design can never be an ultimate explanation for anything. It can only be a proximate explanation. A plane or a car

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<sup>9</sup> [http://www.forbes.com/2009/02/05/evolution-morality-hedonism-opinions-darwin09\\_0205\\_larry\\_arnhart.html](http://www.forbes.com/2009/02/05/evolution-morality-hedonism-opinions-darwin09_0205_larry_arnhart.html)

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is explained by a designer but that is because the designer himself, the engineer, is explained by natural selection.”<sup>10</sup> Darwin's theory consisted of two main points;

1) diverse groups of animals evolve from one or a few common ancestors; that is to say that all organisms now alive on earth and all present day fossils trace back to one or a few “original progenitors”. and change to adapt to their environments. Many organisms have similar body plans. For example Horses', donkeys', and zebras' bodies are set up in pretty much the same way, because they are descended from a common ancestor.

As organisms adapt and evolve, not everything about them changes. The differences, such as the zebra's stripes, show that each species adapted to its own environment after branching off from the common ancestor. Similarities are often easy to see when one looks at two organisms that evolved from a common ancestor, and until recently, looking at physical features and behavior was the only way to determine how closely related two organisms are. However, now scientists can also analyze DNA to discover how closely organisms are related. Every living creature has DNA, which has a lot of inherited information about how the body builds itself. DNA testing is a tool that Darwin never had, but it has helped scientists after him to learn and discover a lot about evolution.

2) The mechanism by which this evolution takes place is natural selection. As Darwin explains: "Variation is a feature of natural populations and every population produces more progeny than its environment can manage. The consequences of this overproduction are that those individuals with the best genetic fitness for the environment will produce offspring that can more successfully compete in that environment.

Thus the subsequent generation will have a higher representation of these offspring and the population will have evolved."In other words members of a species compete with each other for resources and survival and that the individuals who are better

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<sup>10</sup> Richard Dawkins , Read more at: [http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/r/richard\\_dawkins.html](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/r/richard_dawkins.html)

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adapted to their lifestyle are the ones who will transmit this genetic strength to the next generation in other words survival of the fittest" 11

In addition to natural selection, there are two other types of selection. Sexual selection, which Darwin believed was distinct from natural selection, involves the selection of traits based on their role in courtship and mating. Artificial selection is the selective breeding of species by humans to increase desirable traits, though the traits do not necessarily have to confer greater fitness. When we study the animal's mating process, we notice that females, when choosing their mate, will go for the strongest, the most dominant in order to secure her babies and self future ; the same process happen with human, we are not so different ( even that feminist have a different point view ) the choice of the woman( for mating ) will go directly for a dominant man ( this "dominant" differs from a woman to another ) to feel secure, for example, Dominant physically: a few women accepts to marry a man who is shorter then here; dominant financially, she should feel secure with him, without fearing for her future or her children future. "If there is one thing that turns women off more than anything else, it's a man with a lack of dominance. And an attractive woman can smell a lack of dominance like a shark smells blood" 12. No one is attracted to someone who conveys a sense of being powerless. When it comes to being a man, however, power is not only important, it's everything. ...A woman is never attracted to a man who seems to be 'equal' with her. In some major way, he has to be more than her. ...To feel feminine, she must be with a man who is masculine. When a woman is with a guy who is not dominant, she feels like he is just another girl" 13.

Darwin's grand idea of evolution by natural selection is relatively simple but often misunderstood. To find out how it works, imagine a population of beetles, for example, some beetles are green and some are brown. Since the environment can't support unlimited population growth, not all individuals get to reproduce to their full potential. In this example, green beetles tend to get eaten by birds and survive to

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11 a phrase coined in 1851 by Herbert Spencer, 6 years before Darwin published his theory of evolution

12 W. Michael(<http://www.takeninhand.com/women.want.men.who.are.more.dominant>) -seen 01/08/2016

13 .W. Michael(<http://www.nairaland.com/1021620/how-tame-dominate-wife-girlfriend>)- seen 01/08/2016

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reproduce less often than brown beetles do. The surviving brown beetles have brown baby beetles because this trait has a genetic basis. The more advantageous trait, brown coloration, which allows the beetle to have more offspring, becomes more common in the population. If this process continues, eventually, all individuals in the population will be brown. What has been less explored in Darwin studies is how these two parts of Darwin's theory – common ancestry and natural selection — are related to each other and it can be further divided into 5 parts: "evolution as such", common descent, gradualism, population speciation, and natural selection.

As Darwin predicted, it was phenomenal how people reacted and accepted "Origin", even if it was slowly and in small steps during 15 years. On the other hand "natural selection remained difficult to accept at the time because there were many points Darwin himself admittedly could not explain. For example, he knew that traits were passed down from parents to offspring, but he did not know how this could happen.

It was not until the early 1900's, when the field of genetics became the focus of intense study that Darwin's mechanism of natural selection received more intense scrutiny and deeper scientific support. With the discoveries of genetics, Darwin's theories gained a scientific basis beyond observation and were consequently accepted as a plausible mechanism for evolutionary change. Even before genetics arrived on the scene, the idea of "survival of the fittest" captured the imagination of the public. The idea develops from a theory to a concept to a philosophy and was applied to everything from the business world to the structure of society as a whole.

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### 1.3. Social Darwinism

The term is related to a set of events that happened in the late nineteenth century, when applying the principals of natural selection and survival of the fittest in human society. The term emerged in the 1880s, and he gained huge spread after 1944 when he was used by people who were against this concept, like for example the “White Man’s Burden”<sup>14</sup>

- ❖ During the Industrial Revolution Americans and Europeans started their expansion into Africa. They justified what they did by social Darwinism, applying science to Racism. The Europeans and Americans felt that they, being the more advanced society, needed to rule over and teach the people who were more "primitive" like Africa, to civilize them, to encourage their cultural development, from different ethnics and cultural backgrounds, until they can take their place in the world by fully adopting Western ways

Social Darwinism did have some favourable effects. Belief in Social Darwinism tended to discourage any kind of help to the poor, favouring instead providing resources for the fittest of all walks of life to use, or choosing specific, genuinely deserving people as recipients of help and support. However, the strong grew in power and in cultural influence over the weak who were diminished and their culture delimited, this will result struggle for existence in which only the strong survives “survival of the fittest,” a phrase by the British philosopher and scientist Herbert Spencer.

Spencer and Walter Bagehot in England and William Graham Sumner in the United States began to spread Social Darwinism, the technology, economy, and government of the "White European" was advanced in comparison to that of other cultures. Due to that, as well as the economic and military structures, some argued that natural selection was playing out, and that the race more suited to survival was winning. Some even developed this philosophy into a micro-economic issue, claiming that social welfare programs that helped the poor and disadvantaged were

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<sup>14</sup> "The White Man's Burden: The United States and the Philippine Islands" (1899), by Rudyard Kipling, is a poem about the Philippine–American War (1899–1902), which was published in a McLure's publication



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contrary to nature itself. Those who reject any and all forms of charity or governmental welfare often use arguments rooted in Social Darwinism.

At its worst, the implications of Social Darwinism were used as scientific justification for the Holocaust<sup>15</sup>. The Nazis claimed that the murder of Jews in World War II was an example of cleaning out the inferior genetics. Many philosophers noted evolutionary echoes in Hitler's march to exterminate an entire race of people. Various other dictators and criminals have claimed the cause of Social Darwinism in carrying out their acts. Even without such actions, Social Darwinism has proven to be a false and dangerous philosophy.

Scientists and evolutionists maintain that this interpretation is only loosely based on Darwin's theory of natural selection. They will admit to an obvious parallel between Darwin's theory of Natural Selection and Spencer's beliefs. In nature, the strong survive and those best suited to survival will out-live the weak. According to Social Darwinism, those with strength (economic, physical, technological) flourish and those without are destined for extinction.

It is important to note that Darwin did not extend his theories to a social or economic level, nor are any credible evolutionists subscribing to the theories of Social Darwinism. Herbert Spencer's philosophy is only loosely based on the premises of Darwin's work.

### **1.5 The Impact of Darwin's Theory on the Western Society**

Darwin's theory has become the dominant paradigm in many western societies. Some have vigorously refused to accept them due to its perceived religious implication (e.g. its implied rejection of the special creation of humans presumably described in the Bible). What led to a huge conflict in public education, mainly in the United States. Social Darwinism was clearly well supported in the U.S where the laissez-faire economics developed in England and France in the late 18th century was vigorously espoused, and where, after the successful War of

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<sup>15</sup> a sacrifice

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Independence, rights of the individual (especially in the form of freedom from government interference) were promoted.

Spencerian Social Darwinism had much of influence in 1882, when visiting U.S. for an extensive lecture tour. But that tour also coincided with the beginning of questioning and reaction. Leading the reaction was Lester Frank Ward (1841-1913), a geologist and a professor of sociology. Ward took his stand on the side of nurture in the growing controversy of nature vs. nurture. His thoughts can be described as reformed or liberal Social Darwinism, rejecting the struggle doctrines of the laissez-faire school in favor of a special attention on social improvement taking care of the conditions in the social environment.

The leading Social Darwinist in American academic circles was William Graham Sumner (1840-1910), Professor of political economy and social science at Yale which, under his influence, became one of the figures of Social Darwinism, he was much influenced by Spencer. He viewed the capitalist system with great favor because it allowed the free play of the 'competition of life'. Unlike Spencer, he was very pessimistic and did not look forward to a future state of equilibrium. The well-known industrialist and philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie (1835-1914), held the view that individualism, private property, the law of accumulation of wealth and the law of competition promoted the highest and best in human achievements. Other businessmen liked to see (and present) themselves as successful survivors in the struggle for existence. For example Rockefeller said: 'The growth of a large business is merely survival of the fittest...'. Interestingly, many rich American industrialists and businessmen found no difficulty in accommodating Christianity to the Darwinian idea of a competitive struggle which 'necessarily' eliminated the weaker parties in the struggle.

Social Darwinists came to the conclusion that evolutionary progress of mankind came as a result of inter-racial or inter-national struggles. Wars were justified by the theory of evolution. The German historian Heinrich von Treitschke

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(1834-1896). In his book 'Politics'<sup>16</sup>, argued that the weak must perish, and that they perish 'justly': 'The grandeur of history lies in the perpetual conflict of nations, and it is simply foolish to desire the suppression of their rivalry.'<sup>17</sup> However Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) never stated explicitly that he was influenced by Darwin's theory of evolution, we can easily see in the Hitlerian doctrine of racial superiority a kind of Darwinism carried to logical extreme of madness. (Darwin himself had some racist tendencies. For example, he wrote: 'The more civilized so-called Caucasian races have beaten the Turkish hollow in the struggle for existence. Looking to the world at no very distant date, what an endless number of the lower races will have been eliminated by the higher civilized races throughout the world.'

During the 19th and early 20th centuries, social Darwinism inspired a lot of political and intellectual ideologies - militarism, colonialism, racism, Nazism. Even socialism and anarchism were influenced by this doctrine. Marx and Engels were much interested in Darwin's work, and used his theory to support their notion of the historical evolution of class struggle.

### 1.6 The Relationship between Social Darwinism and Nazism

According to some creationists<sup>17</sup>, Darwin's theories are a poison for human mind - his evolutionary theory, they say, directly influenced Hitler's genocides ideology. Historian Richard Weikart (born July 1958 is Professor of History at California State University, some of his works From Darwin to Hitler, Evolutionary Ethics, Eugenics and Racism in Germany.) appeared in the anti-evolution film Expelled, promoting the supposed link between Darwin and Hitler. Weikart has a lot of writings in this subject, arguing that Darwinian evolution destroyed the notion of reverence for life precisely within Judeo-Christians. Weikart is a creationist; he believed that evolution kills morality. "If everything is a product of chance - purposeless - which is widespread in biology textbooks . . . then I don't think you have any grounds to criticize Hitler"<sup>18</sup>. he first dealt with the topic in his

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<sup>16</sup> A complete translation of both volumes of Treitschke's Politics was published in London in 1916

<sup>17</sup>: relating to the belief that the universe and living organisms originate from specific acts of divine creation

<sup>18</sup> "From Darwin to Hitler" of Historian Richard Weikart published in 2004 (Palgrave MacMillan)

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dissertation about the influence of Darwin on German socialism in the 19th century. He explained that Darwinism was used to justify eugenics (the improvement of human hereditary qualities through selective breeding). Weikart also said, "The connection to Nazism leapt out at me."<sup>19</sup> Darwin's second evolution book, *The Descent of Man*, is rife with racist statements about "higher" and "lower" races, said Weikart, and Darwin viewed the extermination of native people in Tasmania and Australia as part of natural selection; Darwin, Weikart admits, did not approve such killings, and he abhorred slavery. Darwin also strongly denied the more extreme eugenicist views, instead saying that helping those in need exercised the better part of our nature. But Darwinian thinkers of Hitler's time were trying to use evolution to justify racism, said Weikart, and this influenced Hitler, he wrote "Hitler spoke and wrote incessantly about evolution, natural selection and the struggle for existence, especially the struggle between races"<sup>20</sup>. He added "There is not the slightest shred of evidence that Hitler read Darwin"<sup>21</sup>

The British writer Houston Stewart Chamberlain was one of those who influenced Hitler's anti-Semitism, his racial theory became incorporated into Nazi doctrine. Hitler uses language with "a Darwinian flavor," said Richards<sup>22</sup>, but if you look at the ideas behind it they have nothing to do with Darwin. Hitler often used the word *Entwicklung*, Richards said, which can mean evolution but is a much more general term meaning development, and Hitler most often employed it to refer to economic development. While some of Darwin's writings contain racist notions of a hierarchy of races, Richards said, this was inherited from much earlier work and was part of the then-current mode of thinking.

In his book Hitler spoke about the evolution of species concept but did not name directly Darwin: "whatever survives these hardships of existence has been tested and tried a thousand fold, hardened and renders fit to continue the process of

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19 "From Darwin to Hitler" of Historian Richard Weikart published in 2004 (Palgrave MacMillan)

20 - *Hitler's Ethic: The Nazi Pursuit of Evolutionary Progress* by Richard Weikart. Palgrave Macmillan. September 1, 2009

21 - *Hitler's Ethic: The Nazi Pursuit of Evolutionary Progress* by Richard Weikart. Palgrave Macmillan. September 1, 2009

22 - *Hitler's Ethic: The Nazi Pursuit of Evolutionary Progress* by Richard Weikart. Palgrave Macmillan. September 1, 2009

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procreation; so that the same thorough selection will begin all over again. By thus dealing brutally with the individual and recalling him the very moment he shows that he is not fitted for the trials of life, Nature preserves the strength of the race and the species and raises it to the highest degree of efficiency”<sup>23</sup>

“By leaving the process of procreation unchecked and by submitting the individual to the hardest preparatory tests in life, Nature selects the best from an abundance of single elements and stamps them as fit to live and carry on the conservation of the species”<sup>24</sup>

Daniel Gasman, a historian at City University of New York's John Jay College, attested that there is no connection between Hitler and Darwin but there is one between Hitler and the German biologist Ernst Haeckel, who was one of Darwin's fiercest disciples. Gasman wrote a book called *Scientific Origins of National Socialism* connecting Haeckel's influence to Hitler and Nazi ideology. Haeckel was Germany's most famous scientist, said Gasman. He advocated evolution but his conception of it was different from Darwin's - he saw progress and advancement where Darwin noted only change. "Haeckel's Darwinism is a vast transformation of what Darwin wrote and stood for," Gasman said. Haeckel also created his own religion, called monism, which tried to replace the Judeo-Christian idea of separate spiritual and physical worlds with a more integrated view.

Gasman said examples abound showing that Haeckel was a leader in anti-Semitic thought. Richards said his research shows Haeckel was militantly atheistic but not anti-Semitic - he disliked both Judaism and Christianity in equal measures. They both agree that any whiff of Darwinism in Hitler's speech or writing was merely window-dressing. The Nazis did try to look scientifically sophisticated, Gasman said. "They took anti-Semitism and gave it a scientific character that propelled them forward," he said. "That is why it was so murderous."

Weikart raised this question: Why should we hold evolution responsible for providing a complete moral framework? We do not ask that of Galileo or

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<sup>23</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf "My Struggle"*, vol. 1, chapter III. Publication date: 18 July 1925 in Germany

<sup>24</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf "My Struggle"*, vol. 1, chapter III. Publication date: 18 July 1925 in Germany

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Newton or Einstein. He replied that evolution is different because various thinkers have applied it to morality. But we can manage to modified the influence of Darwin in many ways, maybe instead of creating chaos, it might be helping us construct a more informed and less rigid morality. Darwin talked about violence, selfishness, charity, and goodwill, that they are all part of human nature. He hoped we would choose to act on the better parts.

“Darwinism by itself did not produce the Holocaust, but without Darwinism... neither Hitler nor his Nazi followers would have had the necessary scientific underpinnings to convince themselves and their collaborators that one of the world’s greatest atrocities was really morally praiseworthy.”<sup>25</sup>

### Conclusion

Theory of evolution is one of the fundamental discoveries and concepts in modern thought; in fact, it is primordial to modern biology especially to the use of biology in modern society. Without it, genetics, physiology, ecology, and every other aspect of biology would lack in coherence. Evolution has also added new perspectives to the discussions on scientific methodology. More dramatic (and famous) has been the theory’s extra-scientific impacts. Evolution has been and probably will remain a doctrine that has consequences for our understanding of the nature of man, and the purpose (or lack of purpose) in his existence. Also, because of its social implications, as in human genetics, evolution is a subject highly charged with emotion, and much of the literature on it suffers from unspoken and often untested assumptions.

The notion that humans and animal shares the same ancestor has also influenced how some people considered the relationship between humans and other

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<sup>25</sup> “From Darwin to Hitler” by Richard Weikart,, Published in 2004 in United States

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species. Some of the defenders of animal rights claim that if animals and humans are of the same nature, humans are not supposed to have distinct rights of animals.

It is very difficult to discuss the theory with objectivity. Discussion of it tends to spill over to virtually every area of discourse in the humanities and social sciences: Sociology, Economics, Politics, Theology, Philosophy, Psychology, Anthropology, Literature, audio visual interpretations... that why, in the second chapter, an analysis of one of the most marking films in the history of science fiction “Planet of Apes” the original version of 1968, where we depicted how social Darwinism is illustrated in it

## Chapter Two: Analysis of the Movie

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### 2.1 Introduction

Science fiction film is a film genre that existed from the early years of silent cinema; it deals with phenomena that are not fully understood by the mind or by science such as aliens, robot, and interstellar travel. Science fiction films have always been a good tool to expose political or social issues and to explore philosophical issues like human condition. At first the movies were low-budget, beginning from 1970's, thanks to some major films as *A Trip to the Moon* (1902), *Metropolis* (1927), *A Space Odyssey* (1968) and *planet of apes* (1968), the genre begins to be taken into consideration and became big-budget films.

*Planet of the Apes* the original one of 1968 represents a remarkable achievement in sci-fi movies with an incredible make-up for the apes who dominate the life on earth taking the place of mankind. Shocking for its time, the film is now a classic with its scenes. In fact he was an inspiration for the next generations in terms of sagas, science fiction..., *Star Wars* and perhaps even more than *Star Trek* and *twilight* were the result of this inspiration, *Planet of the Apes* sparks as a marketing machine of products that were related to the movie that would amuse children and grown-ups at that time.

There are science-fiction movies with better special effects than *Planet of Apes* but few that are as timeless as it is. Nearly a half-century later, the movie still captures audience, the main reason is the apes who run the planet are primitive, they ride horses, they use non-automatic rifles, they use nets to capture humans, they live and work in huts, they don't have cars, planes, trains, telephones, televisions, radios, watches or anything people had in 1968, much less what an advanced society more than 2,000 years in the future would have. The ape society could easily pass for 1868. That's the secret of the film that made him timeless: Not having any technology, even the basics, gives the apes a level of authenticity that would be missing if the film took the opposite approach.



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One of the main socio-psychological effects in the Ape's saga is that they touch something deep inside our collective fears, the idea of human superiority on the edge of the cliff and tackling at our own prejudice and hypocrisy.

### 2.2 Origins

The saga of Planet the Apes began with *La Planète des Singes*, a 1963 novel by French author Pierre Boulle who mixed the speculative fiction adventure with Swiftian social satire, he did not think that it could be a film. He had been inspired by watching apes in a zoo (some of the actors did the same to prepare for their roles). In 1964, publicist-turned-producer Arthur P. Jacobs took a look on the book and and ask fort he help of associate producer Mort Abrahams and began working to bring it to the screen. It was not an easy task. After Jacobs joined with Blake Edwards, who was to direct the film for Warner Brothers, the studio estimated the budget would surpass \$10 million. No one in Hollywood or in Europe was willing to risk that much money on a concept as unbelievable as a planet of talking apes. In time, Edwards was engaged in other projects and the on-again, off-again

Apes Film was rejected by the studios for years. Eventually the tenacious Jacobs secured the involvement of writer Rod Serling, actor Charlton Heston, and, on Heston's recommendation, director Franklin J. Schaffner. Jacobs' APJAC productions brought the budget estimate down to \$5.8 million and produced a screen test starring Heston as Astronaut Thomas and Edward G. Robinson as the orangutan Doctor Zaius. The test utilized paintings to depict major scenes which led up to the filmed confrontation between Heston and Robinson, which was written by Serling and directed by Schaffner.

The mini film proved to the executives at Twentieth CenturyFox that a talking ape would not evoke unwanted laughs and Fox gave Planet of the Apes the green light and \$5 million. The investment paid off. Planet was a commercial and critical success so much that the studio requested a sequel. And another. And another. And another. In all, five films were released: Planet of the Apes (1968), Beneath the

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Planet of the Apes (1970), Escape from the Planet of the Apes (1971), Conquest of the Planet of the Apes (1972), and Battle for the Planet of the Apes (1973).

From all over the world, the Apes saga were more than appreciated by both audiences and critics. After Jacob's death in 1973, Fox followed the movies with the Planet of the Apes television show in 1974 and with the Return to the Planet of the Apes animated television series in 1975. In addition, there was a variety of Apes Merchandise ranging from books and magazines to records and soap to action figures and Halloween masks. The Apes saga had Upgrade from a small science fiction novel to a major international popularculture phenomenon.

The saga of Planet of apes functioned as a discourse about race especially in the United States because history proved that discourses about apes and monkeys and discourses about race and "people of colour" have been continually intertwined. Haraway points out that "traditionally associated with lewd meanings, sexual lust, and the unrestrained body, monkeys and apes mirror humans in a complex play of distortions over centuries of western commentary on these troubling doubles." It is not only apes and monkeys who have been burdened by these associations.

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### 2.3 Arthur P. Jacobs

Planet of apes (1968) was the first in a series of five films made between 1968 and 1973, all produced by Arthur P. Jacobs and released by 20th Century Fox. He is an American film producer based out of Los Angeles, California. Jacobs had always been attracted by cinema and movies, and he made them with the same devotion and enthusiasm. He is born in LA, and lost his father - Arthur - in a car accident and his mother - Natalie Ankle - to cancer; Jacobs majored in cinema at the University of Southern California in 1942. Starting as a messenger at MGM in 1943, he graduated to their publicity department before being lured to Warner Bros. as a publicist in 1946. In 1947 he left Warners to open his own public relations office and in 1956 he formed The Arthur P. Jacobs Con. In the fast-paced environment of 1950s Hollywood, Jacobs' company was a significant player.

Jacobs and Monroe at The Rose Tattoo premiere, New York, December 1955

Among Jacobs clients as public relations press agent were Marilyn Monroe, James Stewart, Judy Garland, Marlene Dietrich, Gregory Peck, Grace Kelly, Richard Burton, Rock Hudson, David O. Selznick, American Airlines and the Principality of Monaco. Jacobs produced What a Way to Go! (1964, for Fox - initially a vehicle for Monroe before her 1962 death left the role to Shirley MacLaine), Doctor Doolittle (1967, for Fox), The Chairman (1969), Goodbye Mr. Chips (1969, for MGM), Play It Again, Sam (1970), Tom Sawyer (1973), Huckleberry Finn (1974), and, of course, all five original Planet of the Apes films (1968-1973)

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### 2.4 Plot

Taylor (Charlton Heston), Landon (Robert Gunner), Dodge (Jeff Burton) and Stewart (whose character was originally a male) are space travelers in profound hibernation when their spaceship crashes in a lake on an unknown planet after a long close light speed voyage; Because of time expansion, the team ages just year and a half. As the boat sinks, in the middle of this confusion, Taylor discovers that Stewart was dead and her body had dried up. They used an inflatable flatboat to leave the boat, just before that Taylor noticed that the date is November 25, AD 3978, eventually two centuries after their takeoff in 1972 from earth. Once aground, Dodge plays out a dirt test and noticed that life is not possible in this planet.

The space explorers set off through a sterile land armed with hope to discover nourishment and water before their three days food run out. In the end, their efforts paid off, they found vegetation and a desert spring at the edge of the desert and go swimming, and meanwhile, their garments stolen. Seeking after the cheats, the space travelers discover their garments destroyed, their supplies ravaged and the culprits<sup>1</sup> striking a cornfield. Taylor is attracted in particular to one of those people, whom he names later as Nova (Linda Harrison).

Coming from everywhere, dressed gorillas on horseback charge through the cornfield with guns and nets. They capture some people and execute the rest. In this confusion, Dodge is shot and killed, Landon is injured, and Taylor is shot in the throat and was taken prisoner to Ape City, where his life is saved after a blood transfusion by two chimpanzees, a creature analyst Zira (Kim Hunter) and specialist Galen (Wright King). For a while, he could not speak because he was wounded in his throat. Taylor finds that the different primates, who can talk and are in control, are in a strict standing framework: gorillas are cops, military, seekers and specialists; orangutans are heads, government officials, legal counselors and clerics; and chimpanzees are intelligent people and researchers. The gorillas have built up a primitive society taking into account the beginnings of the human Industrial Era. They ride steeds and have trucks, rifles, and even primitive photography. Apes are

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<sup>1</sup> gathering of people that are clearly so primitive that they can't talk and wearing torn garment

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convinced that people are not able to talk, they considered vermin and are chased, murdered by and large, oppressed, or utilized as a part of exploratory investigations.

Zira and Cornelius (Roddy McDowall) here life partner, appreciate Taylor, whom Zira calls "Brilliant Eyes". Taylor tries to write some words in the soil; however, Nova, who has been chasing after him, has erased his written words with her hands, when he noticed her action he pushes her away and another human who was with them in the cell, the gorillas react toward him violently and took him back into confinement. An orangutan named Dr. Zaius (Maurice Evans) then decimates the letters she does not annihilate. From his prison, Taylor takes Zira's pencil and scratch pad and uses them to compose the message my name is Taylor. However, after learning of this, Dr. Zaius orders that Taylor have to be mutilated. Taylor heard that and get away through Ape City, goes through a historical center, where he discovers Dodge's full and eyeless cadaver in plain view. When Taylor is recovered by gorillas, he overcomes his wound and said, "Take your stinking paws off me, you damn grimy chimp!"<sup>2</sup>

A tribunal was set to decide Taylor's roots, the presidents of the Assembly (James Whitmore), Dr. Zaius, and Maximus (Woodrow Parfrey). Dr. Honourous (James Daly) is the prosecutor. Taylor asked for his companion. The court then delivers Landon, who was subject to lobotomy that has damaged his mental and living him speechless. After the tribunal, Dr. Zaius secretly debilitates to maim and lobotomize Taylor hoping that he will tell him where he is originated from. With assistance from Zira's socially insubordinate nephew Lucius (Lou Wagner), Zira and Cornelius free Taylor and Nova and take them to the Forbidden Zone, an unthinkable area outside Ape City that has been discounted of limits for a considerable length of time by Ape Law. A year before, Cornelius drove an undertaking into the Forbidden Zone that found a hole containing antiques which are non-simian, and accepted to be human precisely when finding a baby dole that cries. The doctor finally admits that he was aware of the history of his planet and that humans were far more civilized centuries ago. But, he says, humans destroyed

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<sup>2</sup>The scene begins 1:00:01

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themselves and parts of the planet, turning the Forbidden Zone from a paradise into a desert. Dr.Zaius agreed to give Taylor (after being his hostage) and Nova a horse, gun and supplies as they head deeper into the Forbidden Zone. When asked what Taylor will find, Dr.Zaius he says, “His destiny.”

In the final scene we first see a rusted piece of metal as Taylor and Nova ride a horse along the shoreline, then three more in what looks like a crown, they both get off the horse and stand. As the water comes ashore, Taylor says: “Oh, my God, I'm back. I'm home. All the time, it was...we finally really did it.” (He drops to his knees and pounds his fists into the wet sand as water rushes over him.) He screams: “You maniacs! You blew it up! Ah, damn you! God damn you all to hell!” The viewer gets a reverse shot to see what Taylor sees. And there it is – the Statue of Liberty buried in the sand from its waist down; at this point all the viewers perception of the story changes, during all the movie we thought that it was a faraway planet but in fact it was the earth in the future, all what happened is the result of men’s acts

### 2.5. Setting

The settings of the movie are in the arid planet, run by apes and it is in the desert around Page<sup>3</sup>, Glen Canyon and Lake Powell, in northern Arizona. The ape village sets were built on the Fox Ranch in Malibu Creek State Park, Las Virgenes Road off Mulholland Highway, south from Route 101, northwest of Los Angeles. The final scene, when Taylor (Charlton Heston) realizes that he has been on Earth all along, was filmed at a isolated cave on the far eastern end of Westward Beach, between Zuma Beach and Point Dume, Malibu. An often-deserted little beach surrounded by cliffs.

The project is a small movie budget. Much of it plays out in contained spaces, in beautifully shaped scenes, like you'd see in superior stage production. Supposedly Serling's original drafts described a more high tech society, but Twentieth Century Fox balked at the costs it would've entailed to realize them, so Wilson rewrote the

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<sup>3</sup>The area around Page, Arizona, was also used for much of the filming of Biblical epic The Greatest Story Ever Told

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script to make the apes more primitive, capable of building rifles and gunpowder and some medical technology but not much more. The intimacy of the whole thing proves an asset instead of a liability. It focuses the parable aspects. And it makes the broadly comic moments—such as Linda Harrison's Nova flashing a rictus-like smile that Taylor taught her, or the three primates supervising Taylor's trail responding to heretical statements by covering their eyes, ears and mouth

The main set, a village on the edge of a lake, looks (probably deliberately) like a zoo carved out of rock. The first section of the film has just three characters, the astronauts, and most of the action is no bigger in scope than what you'd see in a low-budget Western from the period *Westward Beach*, *Malibu*, itself is a screen favourite. It can be seen at the climaxes of both *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* and *Kiss Me Deadly*.

### 2.6 Characterization

As in any literary work, the story is built around its characters, whose number was considerably diminished from the initial project but still, after the script revision, the remaining characters have done a considerable work so that we could nearly forget that it is a small budget movie.

The direction by Franklin J. Schaffner -- who would win a Best Director Oscar two years later for *Patton*. The screenwriter is Rod Serling, creator of the legendary *Twilight Zone* TV series. Charlton Heston (George Taylor) the lead character is hard-headed and inflexible; He gets some memorable lines, but it's Roddy McDowall (Cornelius) and Kim Hunter (Zira) as the two chimpanzee scientists that anchor the movie, embracing communication and connection between two species. And also we have got Maurice Evans (Dr. Zaius), the orangutan who represents the repressive faith of official science, threatened by the existence of a talking, thinking human being. The rest of the antagonist are: James Whitmore (The president of the assembly), James Daly as Honourable (the persecutor in the assembly), Linda Harrison as Nova (his female company), Robert Gunner as Landon (an astronaut), Lou Wagner as Lucius (Zira's nephew), Woodrow Parfrey as Maximus (the president of the assembly), Jeff Burton as Dodge (an astronaut),

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Buck Kartalian as Julius, Norman Burton as Hunt Leader, Wright King as Dr. Galen, Paul Lambert ( The Minister), Robert Lombardo ( Gorilla's Photographer )

### 2.7. Film Notables (Awards, Facts, etc.)

With only a production budget of \$5.8 million, the box-office gross receipts of \$32 million and due to this huge success there were four sequels to this film from 1970 to 1973:

- **Beneath the Planet of the Apes (1970)**
- **Escape From the Planet of the Apes (1971)**
- **Conquest of the Planet of the Apes (1972)**
- **Battle for the Planet of the Apes (1973)**

There were also two TV series, one live-action and one animated: CBS-TV's Planet of the Apes (1974), and the animated Return to the Planet of the Apes (1975). Finally, there was a reboot or reimagining of the film, Tim Burton's Planet of the Apes (2001).

The success original movie planet of apes brought him Academy Awards Oscar nominations:

- ❖ Morton Haack was nominated for an Oscar of Best Costume Design
- ❖ Jerry Goldsmith was Nominated for an Oscar of Best Music, Original Score for a Motion Picture (not a Musical)
- ❖ John Chambers won Honorary Award for his outstanding make-up achievement in the movie

-- the movie also won the Genesis Award for Feature Film and the second place of Golden Laurel for action and drama



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### 2.8. “Planet of apes” between the original novel and the film of 1968

Turning Pierre Boulle’s novel into a film includes two distinctive techniques about translation, one starting from French to English and from imaginary novel into a film. As a result of both translation processes, the novel and film differ in several aspects in order to give more taste for the audio-visual effect.

In the novel the planet name is Soror, but in the film, was earth. There is some changes in the main and minor characters, Taylor in the film is Ulysse Mérou, Landon is Professor Antelle, Dodge is Arthur Levain, also minor Characters Hector (Earth chimpanzee), Sirius (Ulusse's child) were omitted in the movie, and instead introduces Zira’s nephew Lucius and has Professor Antelle permanently physically altered through lobotomy rather than through treatment as an animal. Major details and plot events are practically the same except in the novel the spaceship lands and in the movie it sinks in the lake. In the novel,

Apes speak simian language, Ulysse initially cannot understand, speak to, and therefore communicate with apes but in the film they speak English, Ulysse shot in neck could not speak. In the novel Ulysse formally addresses the ape community, which then accepts him however in the film Taylor curses the apes upon his capture after his failed escape, after which the apes consider him a threat; in other words, while the novel presents a language barrier as a significant obstacle for Ulysse to overcome, the film omits it entirely to save time by foregoing the entire time-consuming process of learning a new language. In the novel there is No religion and in the film Apes have religion based on the Sacred Scrolls.

In the novel Antelle naturally reverts to bestiality in the other hand in the film Landon loses intelligence and consciousness through a lobotomy . Only present in the film, the escape scenes from the spaceship and from the human cages, and some funny scenes were added to the movie to bring some more flavour to the audience for example at: 1.15.12 apes do the signs of wisdom, when covering the eyes, mouth and ears; and in: 1.02.00 Nova tries to smile, and tailor said:”at least I taught you how to smile”

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### 2.9. The Darwinism in the planet of Apes:

to some extent “Planet of Apes” can be the link social Darwinism and the theory of evolution to some scenes. In fact, we can find this link beginning from the general idea of the film: human provoking the world apocalypse leading to his own nearly complete extinction. As a result, the apes became the fittest livings on earth, and as we said before on chapter one In “the survival of the fittest” the weak specie is considered as a menace for the surviving process, according to the law of nature, to make sure that the surviving process will last, his extermination is a necessity.

#### **The main scenes (time and place) that we are concerned with**

- a. from 1:03:05 to 1:16:30 the scene is in the court**
  - b. from 1:16:40 to 1:20:50 the scene is in office of Dr Zaius**
  - c. from 1:30:00 till the end of the film in isolated cave on the far eastern end of Westward Beach**
- 21:00 Tailor: “me too I am searching for something..... It’s just my dreams differs from yours, I don’t want to believe that in the universe there isn’t another form of livings better than us,, I want to find them “
  - In his conquest for evolution, Humans launched an expedition in search for a higher form of livings, Tailor has the same purpose, and this is part of human nature searching for his natural place in universe
  - 0:29:44 Tailor said “If this is the best they've got around here, in six months we'll be running this planet”.
  - This scene is when the astronauts discover the primitive humans in the cornfield, they felt as a superior species, and as the social Darwinism demonstrate, the need of dominating the inferior species emerge with those words, as Darwin explains in his book: “One general law, leading to the advancement of all organic beings, namely, multiply, vary, let the strongest live

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and the weakest die.”<sup>4</sup> This feeling of superiority disappeared when Gorillas appeared on horses with automatic guns....,

- 0:37:10 the veterinary doctor (doctor who treats humans) “those animals are not clean they don’t smell good and they transmit contagious illnesses ....”

0:40:28: Dr Zaius :”hhhh very funny ..... A human trying to imitate apes.....man is incapable to think”

0:41:30: Doctor Zaius: “he eats all what he can find in the forest, then he immigrate to our agricultural regions and destroy our harvest ...worse than grasshoppers .... The sooner we eradicate them the better it is “

0:48:18 Corlinuous: “all this is ridiculous, humans cannot write”

- In those scenes it is clear that human are considered as lower species. They are incapable of thinking and speaking, they just eat destroy and harm, While the possibility of a speaking human shocks the ape community, the notion of a talking ape has long been a source of contention and debate in European philosophy and scientific research. One of the key features defining the boundary between human and ape has been the capacity for speech. In a well-known treatise, Descartes declared in 1641 that “we should not confuse speech and all those signs which in the practice of human beings convey thoughts, with the natural sounds and movements that indicate passions and can be imitated by machines as well as animals”<sup>5</sup>. Apes are the dominant species who tries to secure their future by purging humans, because if not( as explained in the theoretical part) they will multiply , and spread their weakness

- 1:08:00 The Prosecutor: “they forgot the law of the almighty in the name of a stupid theory called evolution”

- this is almost the same response did religious people to Darwin’s theories specially the one evolution, in other words those who have faith in their divine

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<sup>4</sup>Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species*

<sup>5</sup>Discourse on Method (1644), page 572)

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religion ( whether for apes or human) have difficulties to conceive it, ” Evolution weakens faith in God, undermines the arguments for God's existence, and is a fundamental tenet of all unbelievers. True, some people claim to believe evolution and also believe in God. But all unbelievers accept evolution. And believing evolution weakens faith in God.”<sup>6</sup>

“Although most U.S. Catholics accept the idea of evolution in some form, a substantial percentage of American adults reject the scientific explanation for the origins of human life, and a number of religious groups in the U.S. maintain that Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution through natural selection is not correct because it conflicts with their views of creation”<sup>7</sup>.

We can find other scenes that support this same approach for example

- a) 1:15:31 Cornelius:” look at this missing cell over our simian’s evolution..”. The response was refusal from all the assembly
- b) 1.33.00 Dr Zaius : “there have never been incompatibility between faith and science,, the true science
- 1:19:42 to 1:21:00 Doctor Zaius :”it is normal if you say that this word is backward that because for you value you are at the bottom of ladder, to be faithful....you are a threat... a threat for all apes, I know exactly who you are Tailor ....Tailor: but what are you afraid of doctor , what.??...
- In this scene Zaius as "defender of the faith, guardian of the terrible secret." explains that humans ( as a weak species ) are a threat for the survival of the apes and he shows fear from him.” The weak die out and the strong will survive, and will live on forever”<sup>8</sup> later Zaius continuous his explanation in scene between 1:43:02 and 1:43:30 who takes place on a beach near an isolated cave :

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<sup>6</sup> ([http://www.gospelway.com/creation/evolution\\_consequences.php](http://www.gospelway.com/creation/evolution_consequences.php))

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/10/30/5-facts-about-evolution-and-religion/>

<sup>8</sup> “The Diary of a Young Girl” by Anne Frank first edition 1947

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Doctor Zaius gave Cornelius a paper of the 29th scroll, the 6th verse, it was prophetically written by the Lawgiver: "Beware the beast man, for he is the devil's pawn. Alone among God's primates, he kills for sport or lust or greed. Yea, he will murder his brother to possess his brother's land. Let him not breed in great numbers, for he will make a desert of his home and yours. Shun him; drive him back into his jungle lair, for he is the harbinger of death." Here is a description of humans as killers, murders... a fighter for his own survival, he will do anything to achieve his goal ( as social Darwinism describes human nature in evolution of species) . In a way the end of the film gives us an avangous of the final ending of human species if we stay in the same path that we are already taking, where evolution is more important than anything else.

- 1 :46 :15 to 1:47:00 Dr Zaius continue explaining in the same context : “his wisdom goes along with his madness, his feelings still runs his brain, man is a creature that loves war and fight for the only pleasure of fighting, the man are a monster, Tailor: I don’t understand, there were no weapons in that cave, Dr Zaius: the forbidden zone looked like a paradise, and the madness of men turned her into a desert, nearly two thousand years ago, tailor: this is not an explanation !!! a planet where the ape is descendent from man, there must have an explanation, Dr.Zaius: do not look for it Tailor, you will probably hate what you will discover “.
- In the beginning of this scene Dr Zaius describes the human nature, as controlled by his instincts, desires, feelings..., and not his brain, he is as an animal, and this behaviour will end by his own annihilation, he is not completely wrong, if you can look into the history books time and time again and any civilization, any society, no matter how "perfect" they claim to be, ends up usually being overtaken by crime, poverty, cruelty and war, whether it be the great city of Rome or Constantinople, history repeats itself and mankind makes the same errors again and again, as if we cannot help ourselves. Some say that it isn't man themselves that are evil yet the upbringing, philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau says that man isn't naturally evil, but it is society that makes him that way, he quotes the following " The first man who had fenced in a piece

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of land, said "This is mine," and found people naïve enough to believe him, that man was the true founder of civil society. From how many crimes, wars, and murders, from how many horrors and misfortunes might not any one have saved mankind, by pulling up the stakes, or filling up the ditch, and crying to his fellows: Beware of listening to this impostor; you are undone if you once forget that the fruits of the earth belong to us all, and the earth itself to nobody."<sup>9</sup> He claims that it is society, that corrupts, but you can take even the most basic society, one founded on generally good principles such as the puritans in Salem during the 1600s. Although they were "good and virtuous" thought to be perfect, as soon as one word came into their midst "witch" they turned on each other, distrusting and accusing their former friends, killing one another simply because of hate and fear. "What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another."<sup>10</sup>

Dr Zaius looks at this human nature as his weakness, and for that he is considered as a weak specie that should be exterminated so that he wouldn't spread the destruction around him, and this is a part of the process of evolution of Charles Darwin "survival of the fittest "

- 1:36:27: Tailor: "does an ape craft a human doll that says Mom?"
- the discovering of a human doll,, thus proving that humans once held superior technology and that apes somehow descended from them. the idea that the apes thought they were vastly superior, but end up discovering that their advances are based on human science; And they both share the same destiny, in other words both the dominating specie and the dominated one share the same origin and the same faith, were ever they do they are linked forever .

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<sup>9</sup>Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* (1754), published by Marc-Michel Rey in 1755 in Holland.

<sup>10</sup>Chris Maser, *Forest Primeval: The Natural History of an Ancient Forest*

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### 2.10. Conclusion

the Planet of the Apes works expand its audiences' vision by raising a multitude of questions regarding the commonly-held assumption of human superiority, the partition between species, and the difference between an animalistic existence and a conscious, intelligent one. When humans ceased to act human, the apes rose up and took their place as the dominant species. They treat humans like zoo animals, as indeed they are. The apes live barely above the Stone Age, though they do have guns and scientists, which seem oddly out of place with their primitive buildings and modes of transportation. The possibility of apes succeeding humans as a planet's dominant species serves as an alarming TEOTWAKI (The End of the World As We Know It).

from the beginning of film we noticed of lot of symbolism that could interpreted in different ways, for example, Simian society functions as a symbol for a defective, backwards human society... all those symbols can be better interpreted by applying "social Darwinism" as we depicted in our former analysis, still "Planet of the Apes is one of those rare films whose historical impact outweighs its quality. It's a good film, but not a classic. "<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup>James Berardinelli, ReelViews, Jun 24, 2010

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### General Conclusion

"Darwinism" brought evolutionary and revolutionary philosophies precisely in biology and society. In fact in the "survival of the fittest" by Herbert Spencer, became emblematic of Darwinism even though Spencer's own understanding of evolution, it was quite different to that of Darwin. What is now called "Social Darwinism" is the application of Darwinian principles of "struggle" to society. However, some social Darwinist scientists stated that the evolutionary progress of humanity is the direct result of the inter-racial and inter-national struggles. Especially in the period during the 19th and early 20th centuries, social Darwinism inspired many political and intellectual ideologies, which brought genocides, wars, colonialism...

In their writings (novels, magazines, articles...), expressed and reflected what was happening around the society in deferent literary genres. Science fiction, is one of them, as some name it as "Speculative Fiction", is literary genre of fiction about the future dealing principally with the impact of actual or imagined science or events on society or individuals. In this world of rapidly changing technology, ethical questions raised by developments in biology and medicine and by increasingly sophisticated mass communication, serious science fiction may be better equipped than any other kind of literature to contemplate the predicament<sup>12</sup> such changes present. However, from it's first steps "cinema" brought a new vision of narration, in fact, Sci-Fi was among the first genres to be presented in the film theatres, and success was unbelievably huge till nowadays. One of those marking films is "planet of apes" 1968, in a way that he is the origin of "sagas", in fact, 5 movies came after to complete the original movie, this idea was repeated later with a lot of famous sagas as "Star Wars", "Twilight"...

A number of scholars have considered Planet of the Apes as a symbol for the history of race relations and the civil-rights struggle. In our analysis of the film, in

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<sup>12</sup>an unpleasantly difficult, perplexing, or dangerous situation. See more.



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the second chapter, we have depicted some scenes that interpret clearly social Darwinism aspects. The story of “Planet of Apes” film of 1968 is a metaphor for the human condition, non-human primates who inhabit the earth in a post-apocalyptic future. He presents a world where in humans and apes have exchanged positions in the hierarchy. This change could be explained by social Darwinism, “survival of the fittest” human were no more the dominant species, the apocalypse created by their own hand caused his extinction which left the place and time to the apes to evolve (as the Darwin’s theory of evolution of species demonstrate ) to be the dominant species

As pictures of social Darwinism from the film, Taylor was considered as the talking human animal, the ape Honorius declares, is a speaking monster, possibly the result of experimentation by a corrupt medical team. Appealing to the court to treat the human with dignity, another ape declares that not only can this man speak. He can write, he can reason. Here the Cartesian distinction between human and animal joins the legacy of evolutionary and Judeo-Christian depictions of animal otherness: humanity is separated from the animal in the capacity for rational thought, but in the world of Planet of the Apes, it is the humans who are placed outside of boundaries of reason. from the beginning of film we noticed of lot of symbolism that could interpreted in different ways, for example, Simian society functions as a symbol for a defective, backwards human society... all those symbols can be better interpreted by applying “social Darwinism” as we depicted in our former analysis, still “Planet of the Apes is one of those rare films whose historical impact outweighs its quality. And I hope that we could expand our research deeper in our doctorate research paper, if God will

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