

Reports of 96% genomic similarity between viruses are misleading without proper perspective.

Humans are at least 96% related to chimpanzees but remain vastly different.



T.S. MIKKELSEN
2005



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***Claims of disease
from bats are
often based on
poorly supported
speculation.***



J. WENZEL

2020

S.J. PUECHMAILLE

2020



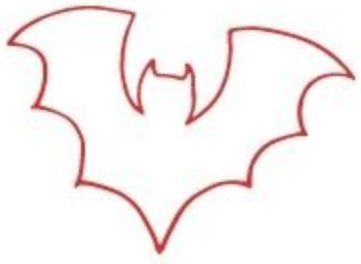
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***Asking people to
conserve bats because
they are beneficial,
while failing to counter
exaggerated fear,
is unlikely to improve
conservation success.***

Would you protect something you hate?

M. LU ET AL
2021



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***COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2),
Ebola, SARS, and MERS
have not been found in a bat,
nor proven to be transmitted
from a bat to a human,
despite frequent speculation
and intense searching.***



K. KUPFERSCHMIDT
2021

K. XIAO ET AL
2020

E.I. AZHAR ET AL
2014

R.A. KOCK ET AL
2019

**P.A. RACEY, B. FENTON, S. MUBAREKA, N.
SIMMONS, M.D. TUTTLE**
2018



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Fear of bats leads to intolerance and killing.



M. LU ET AL
2021

M.D. TUTTLE
2017



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***Bats harbor
no more
viruses
than other
animals.***



N. MOLLENTZE & D.G. STREICKER
2020



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***There is a long
history of greatly
exaggerated,
often false,
disease claims
against bats.***



M.D. TUTTLE
2017



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***There are
no confirmed
cases of
COVID-19
(SARS-CoV-2)
transmission from
bats to humans.***



B. DO VALE
2021



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Promises to predict future pandemics misdirect billions of dollars to virus hunting that is biased against bats and may better be invested in other public health priorities.



M.D. TUTTLE

2020

Y.Z. ZHANG, E.C. HOLMES

2020

E.C. HOLMES, A. RAMBAUT, K.G. ANDERSEN

2018



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Bats have an undeniable history of living safely with humans without causing disease outbreaks.



M.D. TUTTLE
2013



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