

Abstract

The presented Bachelor's thesis addresses the phenomenon of infantilisation of parrots by hobby breeders who self-identify as quasi-relatives of the birds they keep. The central theme of the qualitative research is to identify the factors that contribute to the formation of an infantilising bond with a parrot as a pet. The research employs semi-structured interviews with breeders, an autoethnography of the author's position, and non-participant observation of interactions between breeders and parrots to examine two potential origins of the infantilizing bond observed in hobby breeders. Of the presented possibilities regarding the origin of the bond, namely on a community basis and as a reaction to a deficit in interpersonal social relationships, the latter appears to be the primary driver of these processes within the defined sample. The theoretical section of the thesis presents an argumentative line on the significance of sociocultural anthropology in the area of interest, namely human-animal interactions, and provides an outline of the current knowledge of the subdiscipline of human-animal studies/anthrozoology.

Key words

Infantilization, anthrozoology, hobby breeding, interaction, parrots, quality research, semi-structured interview