

Asymmetries in mother-infant behaviour in Barbary macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*)

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Asymmetries in the maternal behaviour and anatomy might play an important role in the development of primate manual lateralization. In particular, early life asymmetries in mothers and infants behaviour have been suggested to be associated with the development of the hand preference of the offspring. The aim of this study was to investigate the presence of behavioural asymmetries in different behavioural categories of mother-infant dyads of zoo-living Barbary macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*). The study subjects were 14 Barbary macaques involved in seven mother-infant dyads housed in Parco Natura Viva, Italy. For the mothers, frequencies of hand preference for maternal cradling and infant retrieval were collected. For the infants, we focused on nipple preference and hand reference for clinging on mother ventrum. Moreover, we collected frequencies of hand preference for food reaching in both groups. No significant group-level bias was found for any of the behavioural categories in both mothers and infants behaviour. However, at the individual level, all infants showed a significant nipple preference, six toward the mother's right nipple, one toward the left nipple. Further, a significant correlation was found between the infant nipple preference and their hand preference for food reaching, suggesting that maternal environment rather than behaviour might affect the development of hand preference in Old World monkeys. Given the incongruences between our study and previous research in great apes and humans, our results seem to suggest possible phylogenetic differences in the lateralization of mothers and infants within the *Primates* order.

1 RUNNING HEAD: Lateral biases in Barbary macaques

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8 **Asymmetries in mother-infant behaviour in Barbary macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*)**

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21 **Abstract**


22 Asymmetries in the maternal behaviour and anatomy might play an important role in the
23 development of primate manual lateralization. In particular, early life asymmetries in mothers
24 and infants behaviour have been suggested to be associated with the development of the hand
25 preference of the offspring. The aim of this study was to investigate the presence of behavioural
26 asymmetries in different behavioural categories of mother-infant dyads of zoo-living Barbary
27 macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*). The study subjects were 14 Barbary macaques involved in seven
28 mother-infant dyads housed in Parco Natura Viva, Italy. For the mothers, frequencies of hand
29 preference for maternal cradling and infant retrieval were collected. For the infants, we focused
30 on nipple preference and hand reference for clinging on mother ventrum. Moreover, we collected
31 frequencies of hand preference for food reaching in both groups. No significant group-level bias
32 was found for any of the behavioural categories in both mothers and infants behaviour. However,
33 at the individual level, all infants showed a significant nipple preference, six toward the mother's
34 right nipple, one toward the left nipple. Further, a significant correlation was found between the
35 infant nipple preference and their hand preference for food reaching, suggesting that maternal
36 environment rather than behaviour might affect the development of hand preference in Old
37 World monkeys. Given the incongruences between our study and previous research in great apes
38 and humans, our results seem to suggest possible phylogenetic differences in the lateralization of
39 mothers and infants within the *Primates* order.

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44 Introduction

45 Among mammals the right hemisphere has been found to be more involved in social
46 processing, such as monitoring conspecifics and attending social responses (Rogers, Vallortigara
47 & Andrew, 2013; Gilijov, Karenina & Malashichev, 2018). In particular, the left-cradling bias
48 found in humans has been hypothesized to be related to: the infant im ting to the mother
49 heartbeat, with left-cradling allowing the infant to be close to the **mother hearth** (Salk, 1973); the
50 head-turning preferences of the infants, resulting from brain asymmetries possibly related to
51 handedness (Ginsburg et al., 1979). According to recent research, the right hemisphere
52 involvement in social stimuli control has also been hypothesized to be a reason for the left-
53 cradling bias reported in the maternal behaviour of humans and some great apes (Hopkins, 2004;
54 Rosa-Salva, Regolin, Mascialoni & Vallortigara, 2012; Giljov et al., 2018). Indeed, research on
55 humans revealed that mothers prefer to cradle their infant on the left side (Salk, 1960; Damerose
56 & Vauclair, 2002) and similar findings have been reported in chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*)
57 (Manning & Chamberlain, 1990; Hopkins, Bard, Jones & Bales, 1993; Manning et al., 1994;
58 Toback, 1999) and gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla*) (Manning et al., 1994). On the other hand,
59 asymmetries in maternal cradling seem to be less clear in Old World monkeys. Indeed, no group-
60 level bias was found for this behaviour in Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata*) (Tanaka, 1989),
61 rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*) (Tomaszycki et al., 1998), olive baboons (*Papio anubis*)
62 (Damerose & Hopkins, 2002) and Sichuan snub-nose monkeys (*Rhinopithecus roxellana*) (Zhao,
63 Gao, Li & Watanabe, 2008), suggesting phylogenetic differences between taxonomic primate
64 groups. In Old World monkeys, the lack of lateral biases has been found also in other kind of
65 mother-infant interactions, particularly infant retrieval. Indeed, research on rhesus macaques and

66 olive baboons did not report any group-level side preferences in the hand used to retrieve the
67 infant by the mother (Tomaszycki et al., 1998; Damerose & Hopkins, 2002).

68 Infant nipple preference has been investigated in different non-human primate species,
69 revealing a bias toward the left nipple in wild chimpanzees (Nishida, 1993), captive chimpanzees
70 and bonobos (*Pan paniscus*) (Hopkins & De Lathouwers, 2006). As reported for maternal
71 cradling, in general no group-level bias in nipple preference has been reported in past research on
72 Old World monkeys, particularly Japanese macaques (Hiraiwa, 1981; Tanaka, 1989), pig-tailed
73 macaques (*Macaca nemestrina*) (Erwin et al., 1975), olive baboons (Damerose & Hopkins,
74 2002) and Sichuan snub-nose monkeys (Zhao et al., 2008). On the other hand, wild rhesus
75 macaques have been found to show a right nipple preference (Lindburg, 1971) whereas an
76 opposite bias has been reported in a captive group of this species, showing a slight group-level
77 left nipple preference (Tomaszycki et al., 1998). In contrast, more recent research on a large
78 troop of wild rhesus macaques found no group-level nipple preference in this species (Jaffe et al.,
79 2006).

80 Research on hand preference on different tasks in monkeys and, to a lesser extent, great
81 apes has given rise to a heterogeneous picture of their manual lateralization (for review
82 Papademetriou, Sheu & Michel, 2005; Fitch & Braccini, 2013). The inconsistency between
83 different studies might be due to methodological differences as well as to the potential influence
84 of factors such as posture (Forsythe et al., 1988; MacNeilage, 2007), task (Fagot & Vauclair,
85 1991), and individual experience and learning (Westergaard & Suomi, 1993; Hopkins, 1995;
86 Meunier et al., 2011). One of the main hypotheses aiming to explain patterns of hand preference
87 in primates is the Postural Origin Theory (POT) by MacNeilage (2007). According to the POT,
88 the adoption of terrestrial habits during primate evolution allowed the right hand to become free

89 from postural support duties, getting gradually more involved in tasks requiring specific skill.
90 This process resulted in the pronounced right handedness characterizing humans with their
91 bipedal posture (MacNeilage, 2007; Meguerditchian et al., 2013; Blois-Heulin et al., 2006). In
92 addition, also the asymmetries in the intrauterine environment as well as in the maternal
93 behaviour and anatomy might play an important role in the development of primate manual
94 lateralization (Previc, 1991; Hepper et al., 1997; Hopkins, 2004). In fact basing on previous
95 research, early life asymmetries in mothers and infants have been suggested to be associated with
96 the development of the hand preference of the offspring (Hopkins, 1994; 1995; Westergaard,
97 Byrne & Suomi, 1998; Hopkins, 2004). Moreover, mothers and infant might reciprocally impact
98 their manual lateralization (Scola & Vauclair, 2010). Investigating behavioural asymmetries in
99 mothers and infants might therefore be useful to better understand the development of motor
100 lateralization, particularly handedness in non-human primates, gaining new insight into factors
101 driving the evolution of manual laterality in these species (Hopkins, 2004). However, although
102 literature on humans and chimpanzees is relatively well-represented, more studies are needed
103 involving monkey and prosimian mother-infant dyads (Hopkins, 2004).




104 The aim of the current study was to verify the presence of behavioural asymmetries in
105 mother-infant dyads in a sample of zoo Barbary macaques (*Macaca sylvanus*), investigating
106 whether mother lateralization correlates with that of the infant. In particular, for mother
107 macaques we assessed lateralization in maternal cradling and infant retrieval, whereas for the
108 infants we focused on nipple preference and hand use to cling on the mother belly. In addition,
109 we tested and investigated the relationship between mother and infant hand preference for food
110 reaching. Basing on previous literature on Old World monkeys, specifically macaques, we
111 expect no bias in maternal cradling and infant retrieval by the mothers (Tomaszycki et al., 1998,



112 Damerose & Hopkins, 2002). **More studies on nipple preference and infant hand preference for**
113 **clinging on mother belly are needed to better understand the presence of biases in non-human**
114 **primates.**

115 **Methods**

116 *Study subjects and area*

117 The study was carried out with 14 Barbary macaque involved in seven mother-infant
118 dyads. The study dyads lived in a multimale-multifemale social group composed of 24
119 macaques: a dominant male, four sub-adult males, five one-year old juveniles and the seven adult
120 females with their offspring (seven infants in total) involved in  study. All infants were born
121 in June and at the time of data collection they were **between 20 to 30 days of age**. All subjects
122 were  **hosted** at Parco Natura Viva, a zoological garden in Verona (Italy). The macaques were
123 housed in a 870 m² naturalistic enclosure made of grassy areas, plants and trees, rocks, high
124 ropes, artificial shelters and a water pool. Barbary  macaques were fed twice a day and water was
125 available to the animals ad libitum. The diet **was made of** fruits and vegetables, seeds, cereals
126 and mealworms. On a daily basis, macaques were involve in an environmental enrichment
127 program and could receive manipulative devices to be opened to reach for food as well as
128 foraging enrichment. In this latter case, small pieces of food were scattered around in the
129 enclosure or hidden in hay or straw mounds.



130 All subjects of the study were born in captivity and **were not used to interact** with
131 humans. The study was carried out through the live observation of spontaneous behaviours of
132 macaques in their social context. No invasive or stressful techniques were used and the study
133 procedure was in accordance with the EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal research and the
134 Italian legislative decree 26/2014 for Animal Research.

135 *Procedure and data collection*

136 The study was carried when the infants were between 20 to 30 days of age. For each
137 mother and for each infant, fourteen 15-minute sessions were carried out. In particular, two
138 sessions per day were done, one in the morning, one in the afternoon. A continuous focal animal
139 sampling method was used to collect the frequencies of right and left hand use for different
140 behavioural categories in both mothers and infants and to collect the frequencies of infant nipple
141 preference. Regarding the mother, data on the hand preference for maternal cradling and infant
142 retrieval were collected. Maternal cradling was defined as the mother holding the offspring
143 ventrally (Damerose & Hopkins, 2002). Retrieval was defined as the mother reaching to retrieve
144 **for any reason for the infant, which was apart from her.** In particular, we collected only **unbiased**
145 events of cradling and infant retrieval with the right and left hand, whereas events carried out
146 with both hands were not considered. Regarding the infant, data on the nipple preference and the
147 hand preference for clinging on the mothers ventrum were collected. For nipple preference, we
148 recorded the frequencies of suckling on the mother right and left nipple. All contacts with the
149 nipple by the infant were considered in the study, with no distinction between different suckling
150 phases (Damerose & Hopkins, 2002). For clinging on the mothers ventrum, we recorded the
151 hand used by the infant to hold to the mother ventrum, while the other hand was doing a different
152 actions or was not involved in any activity. In addition, for both mothers and infants, data on the
153 hand used to reach for food **(this behavioural category will be defined** “food reaching”
154 throughout the manuscript) in the feeding points of the enclosure were collected. In particular,
155 only **unbiased events** that were performed by the macaques were considered, whereas bimanual
156 reaching, ambiguous events and reaching events from asymmetrical postures (e.g.: laying on the



157 side) were **discarded**. For the infants, we considered only those reaching events that took place
158 when the subject was on the ground and no hand was in contact with the mother.

159 *Data analysis*

160 Given that Kolmogorov-Smirnov Goodness-of-Fit tests revealed that not all data were
161 normally distributed, non-parametric **statistic** tests were used. Individual-level lateralization was
162 evaluated using binomial z -scores, to classify the subjects as left-handed ($z < -1.96$), right-
163 handed ($z > 1.96$) and ambi-preferent ($-1.96 < z < 1.96$) (Michel, Sheu & Brumley, 2002). For
164 each behavioural category considered in the study, only subjects that reached a minimum of ten
165 events were included in the individual-level analysis (Meguerditchian, Vauclair & Hopkins,
166 2010). Moreover, for each subject a Laterality Index score (LI) was calculated. The LI was given
167 by the formula $LI = (R - L)/(R + L)$; R stands for the frequencies of the right side/hand use and L
168 stands for the frequencies of the left side/hand use. The LI varies between -1.0 and 1.0 with
169 negative values indicating a left side bias, whereas positive values indicate a right side bias
170 (Westergaard, Byrne & Suomi, 1997; Tomaszycski et al., 1998; Hopkins & De Lathouwers, 2006;
171 Zhao et al., 2008; Gilijov et al., 2018). Moreover, to compare the strength of the hand preference
172 for food reaching between mother and infants, the absolute values of the LI (ABS-LI) were
173 considered. Group-level side or hand preferences were evaluated using a one-sample sign-test
174 with the Laterality Index serving as dependent measure and chance level was set at 0. For the
175 mothers, correlations between LI scores of cradling, nipple chosen by the infant, infant retrieval
176 and food reaching were assessed using the Spearman correlation coefficient. The same analysis
177 was used for the infants to assess correlation between the LI scores of nipple preference, clinging
178 on mother ventrum and food reaching. Finally, to compare handedness between mother and

179 infants, we compared the LI and the ABS-LI score for food reaching between the two groups
180 using a Mann-Whitney test. All tests were two-tailed. The significance level was set at $p < 0.05$.

181 **Results**

182 *Maternal cradling and infant retrieval*

183 The mean LI (\pm SD) for maternal cradling was -0.01 ± 0.57 . At the individual-level, six
184 out of seven subjects showed a significant cradling bias, three toward the left hand and three
185 toward the right hand (Table 1). The Binomial test revealed no significant difference between the
186 number of lateralized and that of ambi-preferent individuals ($p = 0.063$). According to a one-
187 sample sign-test, no bias in the distribution of the LI was found ($p = 1$, $N = 7$) (Fig. 1). The mean
188 LI (\pm SD) for infant retrieval was 0.04 ± 0.14 . At the individual-level, no macaque showed a
189 significant lateralization (Table 1) and, according to a one-sample sign-test, no bias in the
190 distribution of the LI was found ($p = 0.453$, $N = 7$) (Fig. 1).

191 *Nipple preference and clinging on the mothers ventrum*

192 Regarding infant nipple preference, the mean LI (\pm SD) was 0.51 ± 0.54 . At the
193 individual-level, all subjects showed a significant nipple preference, one toward the mother's left
194 nipple and six toward the right nipple (Table 1). The Binomial test revealed a significant
195 difference between the number of lateralized and that of ambi-preferent individuals ($p = 0.016$).
196 According to a one-sample sign-test, no bias in the distribution of the LI was found ($p = 0.125$, N
197 $= 7$) (Fig. 1). In the case of the hand preference for clinging on the mothers ventrum, the mean LI
198 (\pm SD) was -0.01 ± 0.06 . At the individual-level, no macaque showed a significant lateralization
199 (Table 1). One-sample sign-test revealed no bias in the distribution of the LI ($P = 0.453$, $N = 7$)
200 (Fig. 1).

201 *Hand preference for food reaching*

202 The mean LI (\pm SD) for food reaching was 0.06 ± 0.30 for the mothers and -0.14 ± 0.40
203 for the infants. Four out of seven mother macaques showed a significant hand preference, with
204 one left- and three were right-handed individuals. The Binomial test revealed no significant
205 difference between the number of lateralized and that of ambi-preferent individuals ($p = 1$) and
206 the one-sample sign-tests revealed no significant biases for both mothers ($p = 0.453$, $N = 7$) and
207 infants ($p = 0.453$, $N = 7$). In the case of the infants, six out of seven subjects were involved in
208 the analysis due to the low number of reaching events collected for Vanda's infant, that was
209 excluded from the analysis. None of the infants showed a significant hand preference. When
210 comparing the hand preference for food reaching between the two groups, the Mann-Whitney
211 test revealed no significant differences between both the LI ($U = 15.5$; $P = 0.276$) and the ABS-
212 LI ($U = 18$; $p = 0.441$).

213 *Lateral biases in mother and infant behaviour*

214 To investigate the relationship between the lateral bias in the parental behaviours and the
215 manual lateralization of the mothers, Spearman correlations between the LI for cradling, nipple
216 of the mother chosen by the infant, infant retrieval and food reaching were run. No significant
217 correlations were found between any of the behavioural categories of the mothers (see Table 2
218 for ρ and p values). For infant lateral biases, Spearman correlations between the LI for nipple
219 preference, clinging on mother belly and food reaching were run. A significant positive
220 correlation between the LI scores for nipple preference and food reaching was found ($\rho =$
221 0.786 ; $P = 0.036$) (see Table 3 for all ρ and p values).

222 **Discussion**

223 Findings from this study highlighted no group-level biases in cradling and infant retrieval
224 by the mothers and the same results emerged for nipple preference and clinging on mothers

225 ventrum in infants Barbary macaques. Regarding maternal cradling, this study is in agreement
226 with previous literature on macaques, particularly on rhesus macaques (Tomaszycki et al., 1998)
227 and Japanese macaques (Tanaka, 1989) as well as on other Old World primates, particularly
228 Sichuan snub-nose monkeys (Zhao et al., 2008). On the other hand, our results are in
229 disagreement with previous studies reporting a left bias in maternal cradling in great apes,
230 chimpanzees and gorillas (Manning et al., 1994; Toback, 1999) and in humans (Salk, 1960;
231 Damerose & Vauclair, 2002), suggesting that consistent behavioural lateralization in mother-
232 infant interactions might have first appeared in hominids. However, further studies involving a
233 greater sample of subjects and species are needed to understand the phylogeny of cradling biases
234 in primates. Regarding the hand preference for infant retrieval by the mother, no group-level bias
235 was reported. This finding is in agreement with previous studies in rhesus macaques
236 (Tomaszycki et al., 1998) and olive baboons (*Papio anubis*) (Damerose & Hopkins, 2002).

237 In the case of infant nipple preference, the finding of a lack of group-level bias is in
238 agreement with previous research on Japanese macaques (Hiraiwa, 1981), pig-tailed macaques
239 (Erwin et al., 1975) and wild rhesus macaques (Jaffe et al., 2006). Similar findings were found in
240 other Old World primates, specifically wild Sichuan snub-nose monkeys (Zhao et al., 2008).
241 However, at the individual-level six out of seven infant macaques showed a significant right-
242 nipple preference. Given the small sample size, this high percentage of right biased infants seems
243 to highlight a tendency toward the right nipple. This finding adds consistency to previous
244 research on wild rhesus macaques (Lindburg, 1971) in which a bias toward the right nipple was
245 found. However, the reported right nipple preference is not in agreement with the study on
246 rhesus macaques by Tomaszycki et al. (1998), in which a slight group-level left nipple
247 preference was found. Incongruences between studies might be due to differences in sample size,

248 as the current study has a limited sample, and age of the study subjects. Indeed, the age range of
249 the subjects is smaller in the current study than **in previous one** on rhesus macaques, as our
250 Barbary macaque infants were less than one month old whereas rhesus macaques were observed
251 from birth until they were six weeks old. Further studies on larger samples of animals are
252 needed, considering the potential impact of factors such as age and species on the development
253 of lateral biases in infant primates. Moreover, there might be other possible explanations **to** the
254 inconsistencies between studies on lateral biases in mothers and infants. For example, it is
255 possible that not all Old World monkey species share similar mechanism for nipple preference
256 and different housing conditions between studies might also affect the results (Jaffe et al., 2006),
257 as described for other lateralized behaviour (e.g., handedness) (MacNeilage et al., 1987). As
258 reported for maternal cradling, our findings are in contrast with previous studies on chimpanzees
259 and bonobos (Nishida, 1993; Hopkins & De Lathouwers, 2006), highlighting a left-nipple
260 preference in these species, suggesting differences in lateralization of mother-infant interactions
261 between Old World monkeys and great apes. These findings seem to support the hypothesis
262 relating taxonomic differences in maternal cradling bias and nipple preference to differences in
263 hand preference. In particular, Hopkins (2004) suggested that great apes such as chimpanzees
264 and bonobos showing a left-side bias for cradling and nipple preference tend to have a more
265 pronounced right hand preference, whereas species with right or no bias in mother-infant
266 interactions tend to be left-handed or ambi-preferent.

267 In addition, we investigated the hand preference for food reaching in **both** mother and
268 infant macaques. At the group-level, no bias in hand preference was found, **neither** for the
269 mothers nor for the infants. Moreover, no significant differences were found between mothers
270 and infants in both the LI and the ABS-LI scores, suggesting that mother and infant hand

271 preference is similar in terms of both direction and strength. However, at the individual-level,
272 four out of seven mother macaques showed a significant hand preference, whereas no infant was
273 significantly lateralized. This finding seems partially to support the hypothesis that manual
274 lateralization in non-human primates might be affected by the age of the subjects, with older
275 individuals showing a more pronounced hand preference than juveniles (Warren, 1977; Lilak &
276 Phillips, 2008; Meguerditchian, Molesti & Vauclair, 2011). Given the small sample size and the
277 lack of significant differences at the group level, this conclusion is rather speculative and more
278 studies are needed to test the effect of age on the hand preference and to compare manual
279 lateralization between mothers and their infants.

280 We further investigated the relationship between the lateral biases in both mothers and
281 infants, by comparing the LI score of all behavioural categories within each group. Among the
282 mothers, nipple preference, maternal cradling and infant retrieval were not significantly
283 correlated with each other and with hand preference for food reaching. Among the infants, nipple
284 preference and clinging on mother belly were not significantly correlated and the same finding
285 was reported for clinging and food reaching. On the other hand, a positive correlation between
286 nipple preference and food reaching was reported. Therefore, the position of the nipple chosen to
287 nurse seems to affect the hand preference to reach for food of the infant. A possible explanation
288 could be that the position of the nipple might affect the hand used to hold on the mother body
289 side. For example, if the infants are suckling on the mother right nipple, which is on the left side
290 with respect to the nursing infants, they could be more comfortable to cling on the mother fur on
291 their left, using the ipsilateral hand. Having a nipple preference might therefore lead to the
292 specific and routine use of one hand for support that may persist also outside the nursing and
293 maternal context. This result seems partially to support the Postural Origin Theory, suggesting a

294 left hand involvement for posture related activities and the right hand availability for other tasks
295 (MacNeilage, 2007). Similar influence of infant early bias on hand preference has been reported
296 in capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*). In this species, early bias in head orientation seemed to be
297 related to a body weight displacement of the infant, leading to a manual lateralization for
298 grasping to the mother and to the hand preferences later in development (Westergaard et al.,
299 1998). Taken together, our findings seem to underline that the maternal environment and
300 anatomy rather than the mother behaviour and side biases would affect the development of
301 handedness in the infants.

302 **Conclusion**

303 The results of this study showed that at the individual level, infant Barbary macaques
304 showed a distinct nipple preference and similar findings have been found for maternal cradling in
305 mother macaques. However, at the group level, no significant biases were found for any of the
306 behavioural categories considered. This lack of group-level side biases in both the mothers and
307 the infants, specifically for maternal cradling and nipple preference, is not in agreement with
308 previous research on great apes. This discrepancy between studies might be due to taxonomic
309 differences in the infant development and interaction with the mother that might affect the
310 handedness. In other words, the influence of maternal behaviour on the infant lateralization
311 reported in great apes and humans might have appeared late in the phylogeny of primates.
312 However, as suggested by our finding in Barbary macaques, the maternal environment and early
313 choice characterizing the life of the infants might affect their hand preference later in
314 development. The differences in lateral biases in maternal and infant behaviour between
315 monkeys and great apes might also explain incongruences between studies on handedness
316 between the two groups. Indeed, some evidence of population-level right handedness has been

317 frequently reported in great apes (Hopkins, 2007; Meguerditchian et al., 2015; Regaiolli, Spiezio
318 & Hopkins, 2016) but rarely in monkeys, especially during spontaneous unimanual tasks (*e.g.*,
319 Fitch & Braccini, 2013; Regaiolli et al., 2016). Overall, our study seems to support the
320 hypothesis that maternal environment and anatomy in early life might affect the development of
321 hand preference in non-human primates (Hopkins, 1994: 1995; Westergaard et al., 1998;
322 Hopkins, 2004). However, due to the small sample size of the current work and the age
323 differences between different studies, further research on a larger number of mother-infant dyads
324 is needed, in Barbary macaques as well as in other species.

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Table 1 (on next page)

Measures of lateral biases in mother and infants Barbary macaques.

For each subject and for each behavioural category the table reports the frequencies of right (R) and left (L) hand (or mother nipple in the case of nipple preference), the Laterality Index score ($LI = [R-L]/[R+L]$), the z-score and *P*-value from the Binomial test. Only subject that reached a minimum of ten events were included in the binomial test. Asterisks indicate a significant lateral bias (toward the left: z-score < -1.96 and toward the right: z-score > 1.96). The upper part of the table report the behavioural categories collected for the mothers (Maternal cradling and infant retrieval), whereas the lower part present data collected for the infants (nipple preference and clinging on mother belly).

1

Subject	Maternal cradling					Infant retrieval				
	R	L	LI	z-score	P-value	R	L	LI	z-score	p-value
Budda	101	34	0.50	5.68*	< 0.0001	13	11	0.08	0.2	0.839
Funny	51	77	-0.20	-2.21*	0.0267	11	11	0.00	0	0.168
Katrina	5	27	-0.69	-3.71*	0.0001	3	4	-0.14	#	#
Last	11	51	-0.65	-4.95*	< 0.0001	11	7	0.22	0.71	0.481
Mirror	49	71	-0.18	-1.92	0.0548	18	12	0.20	0.91	0.362
Vanda	98	16	0.72	7.59*	< 0.0001	14	14	0.00	0	1.000
Violetta	74	27	0.47	4.58*	< 0.0001	24	28	-0.08	-0.42	0.678
	Infant nipple preference					Hanging on belly				
	R	L	LI	Z-score	p-value	R	L	LI	Z-score	p-value
Budda's Infant	66	1	0.97	7.82*	< 0.0001	121	143	-0.08	-1.29	0.196
Funny's Infant	63	8	0.77	6.41*	0.0001	122	128	-0.02	-0.32	0.752
Katrina's Infant	26	6	0.63	3.36*	0.0005	96	86	0.05	0.67	0.505
Last's Infant	69	6	0.84	7.16*	< 0.0001	122	102	0.09	1.27	0.204
Mirror's Infant	32	7	0.64	3.84*	< 0.0001	143	149	-0.02	-0.29	0.770
Vanda's Infant	51	26	0.32	2.74*	0.0059	107	115	-0.04	-0.47	0.639
Violetta's Infant	11	46	-0.61	-4.5*	< 0.0001	159	169	-0.03	-0.5	0.619

2 # Excluded from the Binomial test due to data deficiency.

Table 2 (on next page)

Inter-correlations between measures of lateral biases within mother Barbary macaques.

For every pair-wise comparison the table reports the *Rho* and *P* values from Spearman correlations. Asterisks indicate significant correlations ($P < 0.05$).

	Cradling	Retrieval	Food reaching
Cradling	#		
Retrieval	$Rho = 0.072$ $P = 0.878$	#	
Food reachng	$Rho = 0.607$ $P = 0.148$	$Rho = 0.216$ $P = 0.641$	#

1

2

Table 3 (on next page)

Inter-correlations between measures of lateral biases within infant Barbary macaques.

For every pair-wise comparison the table reports the *Rho* and *P* values from Spearman correlations. Asterisks indicate significant correlations ($P < 0.05$).

1

	Nipple Pref.	Hanging belly	Food reaching
Nipple Pref.	#		
Hanging belly	$Rho = 0.090$ $P = 0.848$	#	
Food reaching	$Rho = 0.786$ $P = 0.036^*$	$Rho = -0.162$ $P = 0.728$	#

2

Figure 1

Lateral biases in the behaviour of mother and infant Barbary macaques.

For each behavioural category the bar plot reports the mean LI score. Error bars represent standard deviation. 