



**In all primates, a confident posture is a self-fulfilling prophecy of success. Throw back your shoulders and walk straight, and people will get out of your way.**

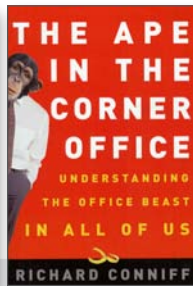
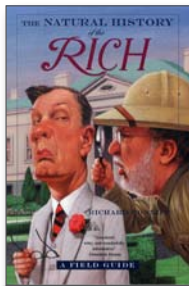


## Richard Conniff

□ *Unique presentations, both funny and insightful, exploring natural history—and the natural history of human behavior.* □

Widely-published, award-winning science writer with a unique perspective on human beings as animals. Also, wonderful stories about the animal world that combine intriguing science with exciting accounts of intimate—and often dangerous—personal experience.

Author of several books, including *Swimming with Piranhas at Feeding Time* and *The Natural History of the Rich*.



Ahead of the Curve

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Author of *Swimming with Piranhas at Feeding Time*.

## Highlights

Richard Conniff offers completely original presentations—**explorations of human behavior** that alternate between the hilarious and the insightful. As a science writer, he's a master of the research, and as a speaker he has a fabulous eye for observation and a gift for conveying his observations with stories and his **insights with wit**.

His presentations are **entertaining** and **informative**, even provocative, full of moments of recognition—*that's why my boss acts that way!* or, *ohmygod, I do that*.

Richard has spent his career chronicling the animal world for *National Geographic* or *Smithsonian* one month and analyzing the life-styles of the rich for *Architectural Digest* the next. His work routinely takes him to **the extremes of the earth**: from an audience with the late Prince Rainier at the Grimaldi Palace in Monaco to a casual swim with piranhas in the upper Amazon.

In *Swimming with Piranhas at Feeding Time*, Richard takes us with him as he gets up close and personal with some of the strangest—and often most dangerous—animals in the world.

Richard Conniff has written several other books on natural history and on **the behavior of the human animal** as seen through the eyes of a naturalist. The latter include *The Natural History of the Rich—A Field Guide* and *The Ape in the Corner Office: Understanding the Office Beast in All of Us*.

He has published in *Smithsonian*, *Time*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Worth*, *Architectural Digest*, *National Geographic* and other publications in the United States and abroad.

Richard won the 1997 National Magazine Award for his writing in *Smithsonian* and the 2009 Gerald Loeb Award for online business journalism. His television work has been nominated for an Emmy.

*Richard is relaxed, fun and funny on the platform, and his material is revealing, intriguing and potentially valuable to a wide range of audiences.*

*This is the single most important thing a natural history perspective should teach us: In all things primate, dominants prolong their elevated status—and may also enjoy it more—when they look out for the best interests of their subordinates.*

### The Natural History of Human Behavior

*We are just not that far from our primate origins and the imperatives and solutions of natural selection.*

Award-winning writer Richard Conniff has a unique perspective on human behavior that has beguiled audiences and won him critical acclaim. He has moved waist-deep into a crocodile-infested river along with a troop of baboons after 90 minutes of fear-soaked debate in the trees, wondering, along with the apes, if this is when he dies. He sees the same fear, noise and courage at work in the board room when companies make dangerous and uncertain strategic decisions. He's also moved three martinis deep into a cocktail party with the fabulously wealthy and noticed that they air kiss just like gorillas do to indicate that they accept you into their troop.

### • Credentials

- 2009 Gerald Loeb Award for business journalism
- 1997 National Magazine Award for his writing in *Smithsonian*
- Emmy nomination for distinguished achievement in writing
- Published in *Time*, *Smithsonian*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Worth*, *Architectural Digest*, *National Geographic*

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