

**Social Behavioral Dynamics and Captive  
Management of All-male Groups of Western  
Lowland Gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) in  
European Zoos**



im Fachbereich Biologie, Chemie, Pharmazie  
der Freien Universität Berlin  
eingereichte Dissertation

vorgelegt von  
Marianne Nitsch  
aus Mannheim

März 2004

1. Gutacher: Prof. Dr. Carsten Niemitz
2. Gutachter: Prof. Dr. Wulf Schiefenhövel

Datum der Disputation: 25.05.2004

*Sadly, the most important fact we have learned about gorillas in recent years is that if humankind wishes to share this planet with the apes in centuries to come we can never ignore their existence, falter in vigilance, or fail in total commitment; we must cherish and protect the gorillas forevermore.*

George B. Schaller