Social semantics: how useful has group selection been?
West SA, Griffin AS, Gardner A
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I found this article interesting because the authors explicitly test the usefulness of the inclusive fitness approach against the group selection approach with a meta-analysis. The authors find that while both approaches are mathematically viable, the inclusive fitness approach has been significantly more influential for social evolution theory, which the authors attribute to its simplicity that generates higher explanatory power. While the two camps seem to keep their respective positions, the current paper allows all those who want to teach the issue and future generations of researchers to decide for themselves how convincing they find the arguments in favour of inclusive fitness theory.

Competing interests: None declared
Evaluated 17 Apr 2008

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