

# What is our *primary biological function* and why?

The central struggle of life is the *drive to survive and reproduce*. Yet the chief actors in the drama are not individuals or groups, but the *genes* themselves. A body can be considered merely a vehicle by which strings of genes produce more copies of strings of genes. We are the genes' survival and replication machines. Their preservation is the primary and ultimate *biological* rationale for our existence! Hence the concept of the *selfish gene*.

The essence of *evolution through natural selection* is that it promotes genes for traits that increase the number of descendants bearing those genes.

Thus natural selection is a *positive feedback mechanism*. It can lead to complex structures, such as the human eye, by their evolving bit by bit, each step building on earlier steps.

Natural selection thus complements *mutation and recombination* as primary factors in evolution--hence *evolution* is more than just a random process of chance!