

## **Contagious Laughter as an Innate Acoustic Stimulus That Provokes Positive Emotions and Affects. Possible Relationships of this Laughter with Happiness**

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### Abstract

This presentation would be based on a book chapter on happiness and wellness (Arévalo-Pachón & Cruz, 2021) and would revolve around the nature of contagious laughter, which contributes to the creation, maintenance, and strengthening of social ties. The poster would offer empirical evidence and arguments that support the thesis that contagious laughter and the laughter provoked by it involve a set of distinctive acoustic and perceptual characteristics and vocal, emotional, and affective effects of possible innate nature. The presentation would also be important for offering indirect support to the hypothesis or theories, such as (a) a supposed cerebral mechanism of perception/production of contagious laughter, (b) emotional contagion through vocalizations, and (c) innate behavioral sequences, proposed by the ethological perspective. Based on the reported evidence that supports the formulated thesis, the corresponding theoretical relationships and implications would be established. At the end of the poster, the possible relationships between contagious laughter and happiness would be established, as phenomena of phylogenetically ancient origin and related to innate tendencies of positive valence.