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## **Inbreeding risk, avoidance and costs in a group-living primate,** *Cebus capucinus* 1

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**Abstract:** Documenting inbreeding and its potential costs in wild populations is a 32 33complicated matter. Early infant death before genetic samples can be collected limits the 34ability of researchers to measure fitness costs, and pedigree information is necessary to 35accurately estimate relatedness between breeding individuals. Using data from 25 years of 36research from the Lomas Barbudal Capuchin Monkey Project, and a sample of 109 females 37that have given birth, we find that despite frequent co-residency of adult opposite-sexed 38individuals, capuchins produce offspring with close kin (i.e. related at the half sibling level 39or higher) less often than would be expected in the absence of inbreeding avoidance. We do 40not find support for alternative, non-behavioral explanations for this pattern and thus 41 argue for mate choice. Furthermore, we find evidence for fitness costs among inbred 42animals in the form of delayed female age at first birth, but not significantly higher juvenile 43 mortality. Further research is necessary in order to determine the mechanisms by which 44individuals develop sexual aversion to close kin.

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**Keywords:** inbreeding avoidance, inbreeding depression, primates, capuchin monkeys 46

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**Significance Statement:** Through a combination of demographic records, maternal 48 49pedigrees, and genetically determined paternity, this study provides a detailed study of 50inbreeding and inbreeding avoidance in a well-studied mammal population. This study 51 provides (1) evidence that capuchin monkeys avoid mating with close kin at both the level 52of daughter-father and half sibling, and (2) evidence of fitness costs to inbreeding in the 53form of delayed first age at reproduction.

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#### **92INTRODUCTION**

Ever since Charles Darwin's time, attention has been drawn to the deleterious effects 94associated with inbreeding (Darwin 1868, 1876). Studies across taxa ranging from 95angiosperms to birds and mammals have illustrated a range of potential costs that can arise 96when close kin produce offspring (Charlesworth and Charlesworth 1987; Pusey and Wolf 971996; Crnokrak and Roff 1999; Keller and Waller 2002). For example, a review of breeding 98records in captive primate colonies found higher infant mortality of inbred offspring in 15 99of the 16 colonies investigated (Ralls and Ballou 1982). Studies of wild mammal 100 populations also often show higher costs (e.g. lower juvenile weight or lower juvenile 101 survivorship) than those found in captive populations (Crnokrak and Roff 1999). For 102instance, inbred white-footed mice, *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis*, in a mark-release 103 capture experiment had higher mortality rates than non-inbred individuals, and inbred 104 males showed continual weight loss throughout the experiment even though inbred and 105non-inbred individuals did not differ in weight at the time of their release (Jiménez et al. 1994). In the hermaphroditic land snail, *Arianta arbustorum* (*L*.), inbred and outbred land 106 107 snails did not differ in their survival when kept in laboratory conditions, but when raised in 108a garden, inbred offspring suffered significantly higher mortality than outbred offspring 109(Chen 1993). 93

In general, inbreeding in the wild has been considered maladaptive (Pusey and Wolf 1996), particularly for mammalian females who bear a higher cost than males if offspring 111 112are not viable, because of their greater initial investment in each offspring (Trivers 1972). 113However, models based on evolutionary theory also predict that there is an optimal degree 114 of similarity between parents that helps keep co-adapted genes in a population together 110

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115('optimal outbreeding', Bateson 1983), and that some degree of inbreeding should be 116allowed or tolerated when the inclusive fitness benefits of mating with kin or the costs of 117 finding alternative mates outweigh any potential costs to infant fitness (Parker 1979; Smith 1979; Waser et al. 1986; Lehmann and Perrin 2003; Kokko and Ots 2006; Jamieson et al. 118 2009; Puurtinen 2011; Lehtonen and Kokko 2015). Thus, evolutionary theory can also 119 120predict a tolerance for, or even a preference for, some forms of kin as mating partners. Some 121 studies do show such preferences. For example, Japanese quail, *Coturnix japonica*, prefer 122unfamiliar first cousins over familiar and unfamiliar siblings, as well as over unfamiliar 123unrelated partners (Bateson 1982), and African cichlids, *Pelvicachromis taeniatus*, also 124show mate preferences for unfamiliar close kin over nonkin (Thünken et al. 2007).

Investigation of the prevalence and impact of inbreeding in wild populations is 126challenging. Pedigree information is often lacking for individuals because of unknown or 127 genetically unsampled parents. Though inferences of family relationships via the use of 128 microsatellite-derived metrics in the absence of known pedigrees are common, studies 129 using these may underestimate the impact of inbreeding depression, because 130 microsatellite-derived metrics have a high rate of misclassification of dyadic relationships 131 (Pemberton 2004, 2008; Szulkin et al. 2013). Even when relationships can be accurately 132classified, inbreeding avoidance would only be expected in cases where there is a high 133 variance in relatedness among potential parent dyads (Szulkin et al. 2013). 125

A further hindrance in estimating the impact of inbreeding in the wild is the large 135 proportion of offspring that die before genetic samples can be collected. For example, in 136savannah baboons, 35% of pregnancies end in either miscarriage or early infant death 137 (Beehner et al. 2006a, b). In song sparrows, *Melospiza melodia*, offspring produced by close 134

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138kin (i.e. full siblings) are less likely to survive their first year (Keller 1998). If inbred 139 offspring are less viable than outbred offspring, early fetal losses and infant deaths before 140 genetic sample collection takes place can mask many of the costs to inbreeding, and inflate 141 the apparent frequency of inbreeding avoidance.

White-faced capuchin monkeys, *Cebus capucinus*, are an excellent species in which to 143study inbreeding avoidance for several reasons. In capuchins, socially dominant alpha 144 males achieve a virtual monopoly on reproduction, at least during the early stages of their 145tenures (Jack and Fedigan 2006; Muniz et al. 2006, 2010; Godoy et al. 2016). These males 146also often retain their top rank for tenures exceeding five years, which corresponds to the 147age at which their daughters reach reproductive age. Importantly, long male alpha tenures 148 facilitate co-residency of paternal half siblings and full siblings of varied ages, as natal 149 males are less likely to migrate out of their group if there is stability in the alpha position 150(Jack et al. 2011) and if their fathers are still present (Perry et al. 2017). Although male 151 migration from natal groups decreases the likelihood of inbreeding by siblings, adult and 152sub-adult males often do co-reside with their sexually mature sisters (Godoy 2010), and 153 males have been known to become alphas of their own natal groups (Perry et al. 2012). 154Inbreeding avoidance in capuchins has been documented between females and alpha males 155(Muniz et al. 2006, 2010; Godoy et al. 2016), with female relatedness to alpha males (i.e. 156whether they are a daughter or granddaughter) as the largest factor negatively affecting the 157 probability that an alpha male is the sire of an infant (Muniz et al. 2010; Godoy et al. 2016). 158Whether inbreeding avoidance extends to more distant kin, however, is still unknown, as 159are the possible fitness costs to inbreeding in the population. The availability of 25 years of 160demographic data, maternal pedigrees, and genetic paternity information from the Lomas 142

161Barbudal Capuchin Monkey Project allow us to investigate inbreeding and its avoidance in 162this wild primate population.

First, we look at how often breeding-age females reside with adult male kin in order 164to assess the potential for inbreeding in the population. Second, we investigate whether 165inbreeding avoidance is limited by the level of relatedness between potential mates. We 166predict more pronounced inbreeding avoidance at higher levels of relatedness, since costs 167to inbreeding will presumably be attenuated at lower levels or relatedness. 163

Third, we test alternative non-behavioral explanations for the lower than expected 169 occurrences of inbreeding between alpha males and their female kin in capuchins. If fetal 170loss or early infant death of non-genotyped inbred infants explained the rarity of close  $171$ inbreeding events, then one would predict  $(1)$  higher infant mortality rates among infants 172born to females residing in groups where the alpha is a close relative, and/or (2) longer 173inter-birth intervals for females residing in groups where the alpha is a close relative, since 174 miscarriages would increase the time between infant births. 168

Finally, we look for evidence of fitness costs to inbreeding, to test the hypothesis that 176inbreeding is costly in capuchins. Specifically we test whether there are higher juvenile 177 mortality rates and/or delayed female age at first birth, for inbred versus outbred 178individuals. 175

#### 179METHODS

#### **Field site and study species** 180

The subjects of this study are individually recognized, habituated white-faced 182capuchin monkeys from the Lomas Barbudal Biological Reserve and adjacent public and 183private lands in Guanacaste, Costa Rica (hereafter referred to as 'Lomas Barbudal'). This 181

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184 wild population has been under observation since 1990 with continuous monitoring since 2002 (Perry 2012; Perry et al. 2012). Behavioral data were available from 11 study groups: 185 186four groups were originally habituated, and seven additional groups formed by fissions 187(Fig. 1). It was not possible to record data blind because our study involved focal animals in 188the field.

#### **Estimating degrees of relatedness using pedigrees** 189

Paternity information was available from previous work (Muniz et al. 2006; Godoy et 191al. 2016). Briefly, we have genotyped 334 capuchins from the Lomas Barbudal population 192using 18 microsatellites (Muniz and Vigilant 2008) and DNA obtained primarily through 193non-invasively collected faecal samples and occasional sampling of tissue samples from 194 dead capuchins. We have determined paternity for 253 individuals in our study population, 195 and for 248 individuals we knew the identity of both their parents. See Supplementary 196Information Table S1 for information on the pedigree depth of genotyped individuals from 1970ur study groups  $(n=310)$ . 190

Although microsatellite markers can be reliably used to determine parent-offspring 199relationships, they are insufficient for identifying other types of kin relationships, such as 200half-siblings, because of the higher variance in the number of alleles shared per locus 201(Csilléry et al. 2006; Van Horn et al. 2008). The mean number of alleles per locus in our 202population is 5.33 (range: 3-9) (Godoy et al. 2016). This level of polymorphism even in a 203population such as the great weed warbler, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, with a relatively 204high variance in relatedness, is estimated to explain only a small proportion of the variance 205(~0.05) in marker-based relatedness estimates (Csilléry et al. 2006). We therefore used 198

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206pedigree information to calculate estimated coefficients of relatedness for our dyads using 207the DESCENT software [\(http://itb.biologie.hu-berlin.de/~hagen/Descent/\)](http://itb.biologie.hu-berlin.de/~hagen/Descent/).

When two members of a group are genotyped, we can be confident as to whether or 209not they are a parent-offspring dyad, but all other kinship categories require more 210information on the parentage of the members of the dyad. Since incomplete pedigrees 211(particularly for older natal females born before habituation of their natal groups) limit our 212ability to generate precise coefficients of relatedness, we binned each dyad into one of four 213 relatedness categories and treated them as categorical variables (Supplementary 214Information Fig. S1). These included one nonkin category and three categories of kin. 208

Category 0 included all dyads with inferred coefficients of relatedness of 0. 216Immigrant males of unknown origin were considered unrelated to natal females, unless 217 genetic paternity assignment showed otherwise. However, some immigrant males that 218were assigned as nonkin of females may in fact have been paternal uncles (or more distant 219kin) of females residing in groups with their alpha father, since male white-faced capuchins 220typically emigrate with natal kin (Jack and Fedigan 2004a,b; Perry et al. 2008, 2012; Perry 2212012; Wikberg et al. 2014). 215

Category 1 included dyads with inferred coefficients of relatedness greater than 0 223but lower than 0.25. Dyads with estimated coefficients of relatedness equal to zero, but 224where both members of the dyad were born in the same natal group, were also 225 conservatively binned into this category. This compensates for the tendency to 226miscategorize individuals related at less than the half sibling level as unrelated as a result of 227the use of incomplete pedigrees of fewer than four generations (Csilléry et al. 2006). 222

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Category 2 included dyads with inferred coefficients of relatedness greater than or 229equal to 0.25 but lower than 0.5. Half-sibling identification requires some parentage 230information for a dyad (two generation pedigree), while identification of grandparents, 231grandoffspring, full nephew/nieces, full uncles/aunts, and double full first cousins requires 232some information on grandparents (three generation pedigree). We do note that we have 233yet to detect any double first full cousins in our population. 228

Category 3 included dyads with inferred coefficients of relatedness equal to or 235greater than 0.5. This category consists of parent-offspring and full sibling dyads. Parent-236offspring identification requires only that both members of a dyad are genotyped (one 237 generation pedigree), while full sibling identification requires some parentage information 238for a dyad (two generation pedigree). 234

#### **Group composition during infant conception windows** 239

For dates prior to July 2006, census data were extracted from the daily behavioral 241data files of observers who were in the field. Starting in July 2006, observers systematically 242kept census records of which individuals were present in a group during an observation 243day, and noted any wounds, suspected pregnancies, and births. 240

Using the known gestation lengths of wild capuchins (avg: 158, std. dev: 8 days, 245Carnegie et al. 2011), we generated conservative conception windows for births. These 246windows were three standard deviations (i.e. 24 days) before and after each estimated 247conception date. Thus, these 49-day windows covered the period 182 to 134 days prior to 248the known or estimated birth dates for infants. We determined which males were present 249in a study group during each conception window, and thus which males were available as 250potential mates for each infant's mother. All males six years of age or older were considered 244

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251 potential sires of infants, since the youngest sire in the Lomas Barbudal population was 2526.25 years old at the time of his infant's conception (Godoy et al. 2016).

#### 253Inbreeding risk

We assembled group composition data on 391 conceptions, 343 of which occurred 255during periods with no turnover at the alpha male position (i.e. during stable alpha 256tenures). These datasets were used to determine the availability of male kin for females 257 during the conception windows of their infants. Because only the relationship between the 258 mother and potential mates was of interest for assessing paternity risk, our analysis was 259not constrained by whether or not infants were genotyped. We used this dataset to 260determine the availability of male kin during the first half of the female reproductive career 261to see how frequently adult females reside with close adult male kin. 254

#### **Inbreeding avoidance** 262

There were 193 genotyped infants of known parentage that were conceived during 264 periods of stability at the alpha male position. We used this information to determine the 265effect of categorical relatedness on the probability that an alpha male is the father of an 266infant, and on the probability that a subordinate male is the father of an infant. 263

#### **Inbreeding costs** 267

#### 268**Juvenile mortality**

In a sample of 399 pregnancies, 107 (26.8%) ended either in miscarriage or with 270infant death before genetic samples could be collected, but only  $5.6\%$  (n=6) of these may 271have died at an age of older than one year. Therefore, we did not consider infants that died 272during their first year of life in our assessment of juvenile mortality rates. This was in order 273to avoid potential biases in the dataset due to non-genotyped infants, as well as to avoid 269

274inclusion of infant deaths due to infanticide after changes of the alpha male. Juvenile 275 mortality was instead measured as the proportion of infants that survived from one year of 276age into their fourth year of life (before male migration from groups was likely to bias our 277 mortality data).

Our dataset consisted of 186 infants born before 2011 that survived their first year 279of life and for which we knew the identity of their father and mother. We used this data to 280test for higher mortality in inbred juveniles. 278

#### *Female age at first birth* 281

We had a sample of 58 females for which we could estimate age at first birth with an 283accuracy of plus or minus 90 days. We used this dataset to look for costs of inbreeding in 284the form of delayed age at first reproduction. 282

#### **Generalized linear mixed models** 285

Statistical analyses were run in R v.3.2.0 (R Core Team 2015) using the glmer or lmer 287function from the lme4 package (Bates et al. 2014). To assess the significance of our 288predictor variables, we ran Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMM, Baayen 2008) 1) with 289binomial error structure and logit link function on all our models involving a binomial 290response ('yes'/'no') or 2) with Gaussian error structure on models involving a continuous 291 response. We included random slopes where possible. We confirmed model stability by 292 excluding all levels of all random effects one by one and comparing the estimates with 293estimates derived from the model based on the full data set. We checked for the presence of 294strong collinearity between our predictor variables by calculating Variance Inflation Factors 295(Field 2005), which measure the degrees to which variance of the estimated regression 296coefficients are inflated compared to when the predictor variables are not collinear. The 286

297highest VIF in any model was 1.478 suggesting no problems. In order to establish the 298significance of the test predictors, we conducted a full versus null model comparison (Forstmeier and Schielzeth 2011) using a likelihood ratio test (Dobson and Barnett 2008). 299 300The null comprised all terms in the full model except the test predictors. P-values for 301individual predictors were also obtained using likelihood ratio tests.

#### **RESULTS** 302

# **Prevalence of male kin during the first half of the female reproductive career** 303 *Co-residence with male kin* 304

Of the 95 females for which we had group composition data during their fifth year of 306life,  $42.1\%$  still lived with their fathers at age five years, while  $31.6\%$  lived with at least one 307 adult paternal half brother (Supplementary Information Table S2). Even at 10 years of age, 20.3% of females still co-resided with their father and 42.3% with a paternal half brother. 308 309During the early part of their breeding careers (ages 5-15), females continued to live with 310adult male kin, particularly males related to them at the half sibling level. 305

#### *Co-residence with alpha male kin* 311

Because alpha males sire the majority of infants in capuchin groups, we looked at 313how often females (during the early part of their reproductive careers) resided with alpha 314males that were related to them. We found that a large proportion of the females at Lomas 315Barbudal had the potential to breed with related alpha males, particularly fathers and 316paternal half brothers (Supplementary Information Table S3). For example, at five years of  $317$ age,  $30.1\%$  of females lived with an alpha father and 9.5% with an alpha paternal half 318brother. Co-residency with alpha fathers decreased over time, while co-residency with 319alpha paternal half brothers remained relatively constant and co-residency with unrelated 312

320alpha males increased through the first half of the female reproductive career (i.e ages 5-32115).

#### **Distribution of male kin during conceptions** 322

Most conceptions occurred while related  $(r > 0)$  adult males were co-resident with 324the females; out of 391 conceptions for which we had group composition data, 290 (74.2%) 325occurred when the mother had adult male kin in the group. Females resided with at least 326one paternal half brother in 30.2% of cases and with their father in 16.4% (Table 1, column 327a). 323

#### *Risk of inbreeding with alpha males* 328

Of the 391 conceptions in our dataset, 343 (87.7%) occurred during stable alpha 330tenures. Of these conceptions, 37.9% (130 of 343) occurred when the female was related to 331 the alpha male (Table 1, column b). Since alpha males are the primary breeding males in 332capuchins, this means that approximately one in every three conceptions during stable  $333$ alpha tenures had the potential to result in an inbred offspring. Furthermore, for  $31.5\%$  (n  $334$ =  $41$ ) of the situations where females were related to the alpha male, there were no  $335$ unrelated ( $r = 0$ ) adult males available to females. 329

# **Effect of categorical relatedness on probability that an alpha male is the father of an**  336 **infant** 337

Having established that females commonly have adult male kin available in their 339groups, we next used our dataset of 193 conceptions during stable alpha tenures and for 340which the infants were genotyped to investigate the share of paternities to alpha males 341when the mother is a relative or not. Alpha males sired 141 (73.1%) of the 193 genotyped 342infants that were conceived during stable periods, including 90.1% (109 of 121) of 338

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343offspring born to unrelated females. For infants born to related females, the percentage 344sired was less and varied by categorical relatedness (Table 2). In 40.6% (n=13 of 32) of the 345cases of inbreeding between females and alpha males, there were no unrelated males 346available for the female to choose from.

Furthermore, we used a GLMM to explore the significance of categorical relatedness 348on the probability of an alpha male being the sire of an offspring. Our dataset was 349comprised of conceptions involving 69 mothers and 23 alpha males from nine groups. The 350 response variable was whether or not an alpha male was the father of an infant ('yes'/'no'). 351The identities of the mother and alpha male were included as random effects. We included 352random slopes where possible. The predictor variables were whether or not the mothers of 353infants were related to the alpha male at the level of a)  $0 < r < 0.25$ , b)  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$ , or c) r  $354$ ≥ 0.5. The number of adult males and number of adult females in a group were included as 355 control variables in our model because previous research had shown the possible influence 356of each variable on alpha paternity (Muniz et al. 2010). However, due to a limited dataset in 357the Muniz et al. study, both variables could not be included in the same model. The full 358 model was significantly different from the null model, which consisted of only control 359 variables and random effects  $(\chi^2$ <sub>3</sub>=46.747, P<0.0001). 347

Relative to the  $r = 0$  relatedness category, alpha males sired significantly fewer 361 offspring with females in the  $r \ge 0.5$  and  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$  categories (Table 3). Alpha males 362were not significantly less likely to sire offspring with females in the  $0 < r < 0.25$  category 363than they were to sire infants with unrelated females. 360

**Effect of categorical relatedness on probability that a subordinate is the father of an**  364 **infant** 365

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Since subordinate males also sire offspring, we investigated the pattern of 367 conceptions by females and subordinate males. We analyzed data for only those 368conceptions during stable alpha periods where a subordinate male was the sire of the 369 $in$ fant (n=52 infants) and we excluded the alpha males from the analysis. There was no 370inbreeding between females and subordinate males related at the level of  $r \ge 0.5$  (Table 4), 371 though there were 20 such dyads (n=14 unique) in our dataset (sons: n=8, fathers: n=2, full  $372$ brothers: n=10). 366

We used a GLMM to explore the significance of categorical relatedness on the 374probability of a subordinate male being the sire of an offspring. From our 52 subordinate-375sired infants, we generated a dataset of 313 dyads formed between 30 females and 59 376subordinate adult males. The response variable was whether or not a subordinate male was 377the father of an infant ('yes'/'no'). The identities of the mothers, subordinate males, and 378infants were included as random effects. The predictor variables were whether or not the 379 $m$ others of infants were related to the subordinate male at the level of a)  $0 < r < 0.25$ , b)  $3800.25 \le r < 0.5$ , or c) r  $\ge 0.5$ . The number of adult males and number of adult females in a 381group were included as control variables. Random slopes were included where possible. 382The full model was significantly different from the null model, which consisted of only 383 $\text{control variables}$  and random effects  $(\chi^2{}_{3}=10.557,\text{P}<\text{0.0144}).$ 373

Relative to the  $r = 0$  relatedness category, subordinate males sired significantly fewer 385offspring with females in the  $r \ge 0.5$  and  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$  categories, after controlling for the 386number of adult males and adult females in the group (Table 5). Subordinate males were 387not significantly less likely to sire offspring with females in the  $0 < r < 0.25$  category than 388they were to sire infants with unrelated females, but there was a trend in that direction. 384

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#### **Alternative, non-behavioral explanations for paternity patterns** 389

The significantly lower occurrence of offspring produced by relatives can be 391 explained as an outcome of inbreeding avoidance or, alternatively, a scenario in which 392 matings between kin do occur, but resultant progeny are less fit and die either early during 393gestation or soon after birth before genetic samples can be collected for paternity 394determination. This scenario predicts that age at first birth should be higher and inter-birth 395intervals longer for females residing with a related alpha male as compared to when the 396alpha male is unrelated, as a result of higher incidences of miscarriages resulting from 397inbreeding events. Furthermore, first year infant mortality rates should be higher for cases 398in which females were co-resident with a related alpha male (i.e the primary breeding 399male) as compared to when the alpha male is unrelated. Such a result would suggest higher 400infant mortality rates for inbred offspring (before genetic samples could be collected). 401However, we found no support for these three possibilities and thus no support for the 402alternative (non-behavioral) explanation for paternity patterns (See Supplementary 403Information Table S4, S5, and S6). 390

#### **Inbreeding in the population** 404

Looking at all genotyped individuals (regardless of alpha status or group stability) 406for whom we knew their father and mother (n=248 infants), 21.4  $\%$  (n=53) were the 407product of some degree of inbreeding (Table 6). For 52 out of 53 of the inbred offspring, we 408had information on the group composition around the time of their conception. In 44.2%  $409(n=23)$  of the inbreeding cases, the mothers did not have any unrelated (r = 0) males 410available in their group. For the remaining 29 cases, 20 of the infants were sired by the 411alpha of the group (69.0%) and the remaining 9 were sired by males that were either more 405

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412distantly related to the mother (n=8) or as equally related to the mother (n=1) as was the 413alpha male.

Out of 22 known instances of inbreeding between paternal half siblings, 63.6%  $415(n=14)$  were cases where the brother was also the alpha male of the group at some point 416during the infant conception window. Similarly, all five parent-offspring inbreeding events 417involved a male who was confirmed or likely to have been the alpha during the infant 418conception window. There was one case of mother-son inbreeding. It involved a male that 419migrated into and became the alpha of a fission product of his natal group where his 420 mother still resided. The four cases of father-daughter inbreeding involved two dyads, 421 which each produced offspring twice. 414

We have documented only one instance of extra-group paternity in Lomas Barbudal. 423Even in this case, the father of her infant was a familiar paternal half brother (he emigrated 424from her natal group) that was the alpha male in a nearby group. Thus, it appears that 425 extra-group paternity is extremely rare at Lomas Barbudal and does not constitute an 426alternative female reproductive strategy for preventing inbreeding. 422

#### **Potential costs to inbreeding** 427

#### *Mortality in inbred versus non-inbred juveniles* 428

With our sample of 186 infants of known parentage, we tested for higher mortality 430in inbred versus non-inbred individuals. We found that mortality rates doubled for 431 juveniles in the 0.25  $\leq$  r < 0.5 and r  $\geq$  0.5 categories compared to the r=0 category, but that 432 mortality rates for the  $0 < r < 0.25$  were comparable to those of the r=0 category (Table 7). 433However, the numbers of individuals dying before the age of four were small and a GLMM 434incorporating the identity of each infant's mother as a random effect revealed only a 429

435 $m$ arginal effect of relatedness on mortality between ages one and four when comparing r ≥ 4360.25 to  $r < 0.25$  ( $\chi^2$ <sub>1</sub>=2.916, P=0.0877).

#### *Delayed age at first birth in inbred versus non-inbred females* 437

With our sample of 58 females with accurate estimates of their ages at first birth, we 439tested for older ages at first birth in inbred females compared to outbred females. To do this 440we ran a GLMM with female age as the response variable. Since our sample sizes were 441small, our test variable was relatedness at any level between the parents of inbred 442offspring. The identity of each female's group of residence was added in as a random effect. 443The full model was significantly different from the null model ( $\chi^2$ <sub>1</sub>=7.046, P=0.0079). In 444 $other$  words, inbred females (age $_{avg}$ =6.73, SE=0.177, n=12) gave birth significantly later 445than did non-inbred females (age $_{avg}$ =6.246, SE=0.08, n=46) (Fig. 2). 438

#### **446DISCUSSION**

Overall, we find that females in the Lomas Barbudal population of capuchins 448frequently co-reside with close adult male kin, that behavioral avoidance of close 449inbreeding occurs between individuals related at the half-sibling and higher level, and that 450there is a cost associated with inbreeding. 447

Alpha males co-residing with close adult female kin (i.e. at the half sibling level and 452higher) sired far fewer offspring with them than would be expected in the absence of some 453form of behavioral inbreeding avoidance (see also Muniz et al. 2006, 2010; Godoy et al. 2016). The same results were found when looking at subordinate males. Only 2% of 454 455genotyped infants were a product of inbreeding at the  $r \ge 0.5$  level. Co-resident kin at the 456level of  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$  (i.e. half sibling level) also produced fewer offspring than expected by 457 $ch$ ance, but this effect was weaker than inbreeding avoidance at the  $r \ge 0.5$  (i.e. father-451

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458daughter) level. In over a third of the cases of inbreeding, the females had no non-kin adult 459male groupmates available as potential mates. Age at first birth did not vary as a function of 460female relatedness to the alpha male, and extra-group paternity was extremely rare, 461 suggesting that neither delaying reproduction nor mating outside the group were viable 462alternative female strategies. Co-resident male-female pairs related at  $0 < r < 0.25$  bred less 463often than unrelated pairs, but this difference was not significant.

In collared flycatchers, *Ficedula albicollis*, inbreeding pairs have lower hatching rates 465than outbreeding pairs, and the offspring that are produced have lower fledging skeletal 466weight and higher post-fledging mortality rates than outbred offspring (Kruuk et al. 2002). 467In theory, the reduced viability, early mortality and consequent absence of inbred offspring 468in a population may lead to the inference that such individuals are not produced at all, 469potentially leading to the inference of behavioral inbreeding avoidance by related parents. 470If matings between close kin do occur at higher than apparent frequencies in capuchins, but 471 result in either early stage fetal loss or early infant death (i.e. before genetic samples can be 472collected), then higher infant mortality rates and markers for miscarriages should be 473evident among potentially inbreeding pairs. However, we found that infant mortality rates 474in stable groups (i.e. where no alpha turnover took place) did not significantly vary 475 according to the relatedness between mothers and alpha males. Additionally, both (1) 476female age at first birth and (2) the lengths of inter-birth intervals for females living with 477 their alpha male relatives did not differ from those of females living with non-kin alphas. 478These results are consistent with those from a smaller sample analyzed in Muniz et al. 479(2006). These findings together provide further evidence against apparent inbreeding 464

480avoidance patterns being the result of fetal loss or early infant mortality, and instead are 481 suggestive of mate choice.

That there would be mechanisms in place to prevent inbreeding between father-483daughter pairs makes sense in this particular population, given than over 42.1% of our 484females resided with their fathers at the age when they reached sexual maturity (i.e. in their 485fifth year of life). Furthermore, selection may be particularly strong for father-daughter 486inbreeding avoidance in capuchins because if no mechanism were in place, multiple-487 generations of inbreeding could occur given that in some cases adult females are also 488resident with their grandfathers. Indeed, another primate with high male reproductive 489skew toward one dominant and long dominance tenures is the mountain gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*), and this species also engages in father-daughter inbreeding avoidance in 490 491the wild (Vigilant et al. 2015). 482

Inbreeding at the level of paternal half siblings (8.2% of births) and more distantly 493related kin (10.2%) was more common than inbreeding at the full-sibling level (2%). Dyads 494 related at  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$  appeared to avoid inbreeding, but to a more limited degree than 495 $p$ arent-offspring and full sibling dyads, whereas the dyads related at  $0 < r < 0.25$  did not 496differ significantly from unrelated dyads. While this may reflect an inability to accurately 497detect more distant kin categories, it may also reflect a reduced cost to inbreeding at these 498lower coefficients of relatedness. In the house mouse, Mus musculus domesticus, the 499offspring of full-sibling pairs showed lowered resistance to experimentally induced *Salmonella* infections compared to outbred offspring, having higher mortality and lower 500 501bacterial clearance; interestingly though, the offspring of full first cousin pairs did not differ 492

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502from outbred individuals in their resistance to *Salmonella* infection, at least not while under 503laboratory conditions (Ilmonen et al. 2008).

If parent-offspring matings produce less viable young, then father-daughter 505inbreeding avoidance may be a form of reproductive concession that, while reducing the 506overall level of reproductive skew toward dominant males, does not negatively impact 507overall alpha male reproductive success. This would, however, be a larger reproductive 508trade-off for alpha males less closely related to the females in their group, since (1) any 509costs of inbreeding would theoretically be lower and (2) males would have less inclusive 510fitness benefits from the offspring born to more distantly related females. Alpha males may 511also benefit from not inbreeding with their daughters because of the added benefit of 512having reproductively available females as incentives for male allies to remain in the group 513(Perry 2012). 504

Our current data suggest that there is a cost to inbreeding, as inbred females have a 515later age at first birth than do non-inbred females. Delayed age at first birth in inbred 516females has also been documented in captive Barbary sheep (Ammotragus lervia *sahariensis*) (Cassinello and Alados 1996). Contrastingly, in semi-free ranging mandrills 517 518(Mandrillus sphinx) age at first conception is accelerated, not delayed, in inbred females 519(Charpentier et al. 2006). To our knowledge, our results are the first evidence of delayed 520female reproduction as a consequence of inbreeding in non-human primates. In the 521hermaphroditic land snail, the number of eggs laid by outbred and inbred pairs (full-sibling 522pairs) do not differ significantly, but the proportion of eggs that hatch and the number of 523hatchlings produced is significantly lower for inbreeding pairs (Chen 1993). It may be that 524in capuchins, inbred and outbred females do not differ in when they first become pregnant, 514

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525but instead differ in the likelihood of a successful pregnancy. Whether the reproductive 526delay in inbred capuchins is the result of slowed sexual maturation, or the result of early 527 miscarriages is unknown. Future research comparing the interbirth intervals of inbred 528versus non-inbred females would help differentiate between the two possibilities, as would 529hormonal monitoring of female reproductive states. At present we do not have sufficient 530data on interbirth intervals or the onset of cycling in inbred females to address these issues.

Although not statistically significant, our findings give some suggestion of more 532severe costs to inbreeding in the form of higher juvenile mortality for inbred offspring. 533Interestingly, in wild cactus finches, *Geospiza scandens*, inbred individuals show lower 534juvenile survivorship compared to noninbred individuals, but only when looking at years 535 with low rainfall (low food availability) or large population sizes (higher competition) 536(Keller et al. 2002). Other studies have also found environmental-specific costs to 537inbreeding (e.g. Jiménez et al. 1994; Keller et al. 1994; Henry et al. 2003). The population 538growth dynamics of wild capuchins are known to be susceptible to environmental stressors 539such as rainfall deficits accompanying El Niño events (Campos et al. 2015). Future models 540of inbreeding depression in capuchins may benefit from the incorporation of measures of 541 environmental stressors. 531

To date, genetic analyses of paternity in our population are indicative of avoidance of 543close inbreeding, particularly at the level of parent-offspring, and perhaps a tolerance for, 544but not preference for, inbreeding with more distant kin. Admittedly though, our ability to 545generate accurate estimated coefficients of relatedness below the level of half siblings is 546limited. Future research analyzing the mate preferences of dyads with deeper known 547 pedigrees may help shed light on the precise limits to inbreeding avoidance in this 542

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548population. Furthermore, researching potential mechanisms of kin recognition in capuchins 549will also help establish a clearer picture of why matings between certain categories of kin (i.e. paternal half siblings) is more common than others.

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## **FIGURES**



## **Fig. 1 Study groups.** Shown are four groups and their seven fission products



boxes plot the first, second (median), and third quartiles. The whiskers indicate the minimum and maximum values falling within 1.5 times the interquartile range. 



**Table 1** Availability of adult male kin during conception windows and the risk of inbreeding 711 712between females and alpha males. The table shows (a) the number of conceptions (from a total 713 pool of n=391) for which females had at least one adult male available that fit into a particular 714 relatedness or kinship category, and (b) conceptions during stable alpha tenures ( $n=343$ ), 715 categorized by categorical relatedness and kinship between mothers and alpha males



**Table 2** Percentage of offspring sired by alpha males, categorized by categorical relatedness 716

717between infants' mothers and alpha males. Data come from 193 conceptions during stable alpha

718tenures



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| <b>Fixed effects</b>    | <b>Estimate</b> | <b>SE</b> | df           | <b>LRT</b> | Pr(Chi)             |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------------------|
| (Intercept)             | 6.411           | 1.692     |              |            |                     |
| Predictor variables     |                 |           |              |            |                     |
| 1: $0 < r < 0.25$       | $-1.014$        | 1.110     | 1            | 0.798      | 0.3717              |
| 2: $0.25 \le r \le 0.5$ | $-2.837$        | 1.097     | 1            | 9.101      | 0.0026              |
| $3: r \geq 0.5$         | $-5.422$        | 1.289     |              |            | $45.195 \le 0.0001$ |
| Control variables       |                 |           |              |            |                     |
| # of adult males        | $-0.381$        | 0.161     | $\mathbf{1}$ | 4.595      | 0.0321              |
| # of adult females      | $-0.168$        | 0.170     |              | 0.971      | 0.3244              |

720Table 3 Final GLMM results on probability of alpha males siring infants

ignificant effects are shown in boldface. 721

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**Table 4** Percentage of offspring sired by subordinate males, categorized by the categorical 723

724 relatedness between infants' mothers and subordinate males. Data come from 52 conceptions

725 during stable alpha tenures where a subordinate male was the sire of the infant



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| <b>Fixed effects</b>    | <b>Estimate</b> |        |              | SE df LRT | Pr(Chi) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------|-----------|---------|
| (Intercept)             | $-1.429$        | 0.972  |              |           |         |
| Predictor variables     |                 |        |              |           |         |
| 1: $0 < r < 0.25$       | $-0.982$        | 0.607  | $\mathbf{1}$ | 2.713     | 0.0995  |
| 2: $0.25 \le r \le 0.5$ | $-1.579$        | 0.572  |              | 7.688     | 0.0056  |
| $3: r \geq 0.5$         | $-17.087$       | a      | 1            | 5.742     | 0.0166  |
| Control variables       |                 |        |              |           |         |
| # of adult males        | $-0.275$        | 0.133  | 1            | 3.824     | 0.0505  |
| # of adult females      |                 | (1114) |              | 0.449     | 0.5026  |

**Table 5** Final GLMM results on probability of subordinate males siring infants 730

731<sup>ª</sup> Standard error not shown because it is meaningless as a result of complete separation

732 Significant effects are shown in boldface.

#### 733

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735Table 6 Genotyped infants, categorized by kinship and relatedness between their parents.



**Table 7** Juvenile mortality, by categorical relatedness of parents



### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Table S1** Pedigree information for genotyped individuals of known sex. Information is not shown for 6 infants

745who died before their sexes were determined.





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**Figure S1** Distribution of the estimated coefficients of relatedness in a sample of 327 751 752unique dyads, which are binned into four relatedness categories. Incomplete pedigrees 753 mean that the actual coefficients of relatedness can be higher than the estimated values. 754The dyads represented in this figure come from the data used in the analyses seen in Tables 7552-5. Note that there are several cases in the  $0.25 > r > 0$  category, where dyads were 756 estimated to have a coefficient of relatedness equal to zero because of incomplete 757 pedigrees; these dyads were cases where both individuals were born into the same natal 758group. 759

**Table S2** Male kin availability across the first half of the female breeding career. The table 760 761shows the number of females of each age who was co-resident with at least one adult male 762kin from a particular kinship category



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**Table S3** Availability of alpha male kin across the first half of the female breeding career. 767 768Table shows the number of females at each age that lived in a group where an alpha male 769fell into a particular kinship category



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#### **Alternate, non-behavioral explanations for paternity patterns** 773

#### *Female-alpha relatedness and female age at first birth* 774

We looked at a small subset of females (n=37) whose age at first birth was known to 776be accurate to within 3 months, and who lived in a group containing a stable alpha from age 7774.5 (presumably before commencing cycling) through to their first infant's conception 778(Table S4). We ran a GLMM to assess whether categorical relatedness between females and 779the alpha males of their groups positively impacted the age at which females had their first-780born offspring (i.e. delayed age at first birth). Such a result would suggest that inbreeding 781 does occur but that pregnancies result in miscarriage. Our dataset included data on 13 782alpha males from seven social groups. Our response variable was each female's age at first 783birth. Our test variables were the levels of relatedness between the infants' mothers and the 784 alpha males;  $0 < r < 0.25$ ,  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$ , and  $r \ge 0.5$ . The identities of the alphas, females, 785and groups of residence were included as random effects. The full model was not 786significantly different from the null model ( $\chi^2$ <sub>3</sub>=2.657, P=0.4477). In other words, we did 787 not find evidence for miscarriages. Similar results were found when condensing all  $r > 0$ 788categories together (i.e. a kin versus non-kin comparison) ( $\chi^2$ <sub>1</sub>=0.299, P=0.5843). 775 789

| <b>Relatedness</b><br>Category |       | Avg. age Std. Dev. | SE.            | $\mathbf N$ | [95% Conf.<br>Interval |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 0: $r = 0$                     | 6.079 | 0.369              | 0.091 13       |             | $[5.882 \quad 6.277]$  |
| 1: $0 < r < 0.25$              | 5.946 | 0.523              | $0.147\quad 6$ |             | $[5.569 \quad 6.324]$  |
| 2: $0.25 \le r < 0.5$          | 6.255 | 0.375              | $0.127$ 6      |             | [5.929]<br>6.580       |
| $3: r \geq 0.5$                | 6.208 | 0.488              | $0.152$ 12     |             | $[5.874 \quad 6.541]$  |

**Table S4** Female age at first birth, categorized by female relatedness to alpha. 790

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### *Female-alpha relatedness and inter-birth intervals* 792

To further investigate the possibility of miscarriages driving our results of apparent 794inbreeding avoidance, we also analyzed a subset of inter-birth intervals (n=91), for which 795the following criteria were met;  $1$ ) the first infant survived its first year of life,  $2$ ) the alpha 796male, during the conception window of the subsequent infant, was the same male that was 797alpha during the first infant's conception window, and 3) the IBI estimate was accurate to 798 within 3 months (Table S2). We dropped one IBI outlier, which was more than 5 standard 799deviations higher than the population mean (mean: 749 days, st.dev: 145, Perry et al. 2012). 800 793

We ran a GLMM to test for a positive effect of categorical relatedness between 802females and alpha males on the inter-birth intervals for females (i.e. longer inter-birth 803intervals). Such a result would suggest that inbreeding occurs but that pregnancies end in 804miscarriage. Our dataset comprised 52 mothers and 14 alpha males from nine social 805groups. Our test variables were the levels of relatedness between the infants' mothers and 806the alpha males;  $0 < r < 0.25$ ,  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$ , and  $r \ge 0.5$ . We included the identities of 807females, alphas, and groups of residence as random effects. The full model was not 808significantly different from the null model ( $\chi^2$ <sub>3</sub>=4.339, P=0.2271), meaning we found no 809evidence for miscarriages. Similar results were found when condensing all r > 0 categories 810together and comparing kin versus non-kin ( $\chi^2$ 1=0.0985, P=0.7536). 801

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| <b>Relatedness</b><br>category |       | Avg. IBI Std. Dev. SE |         | - N | [95% Conf.<br><b>Interval</b> |  |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------|-----|-------------------------------|--|
| 0: $r = 0$                     | 753.0 | 132.6                 | 18.6 51 |     | $[715.7]$<br>790.21           |  |
| 1: $0 < r < 0.25$              | 804.7 | 118.9                 | 37.6 10 |     | $[719.7]$<br>889.7]           |  |
| 2: $0.25 \le r \le 0.5$        | 871.0 | 139.5                 | 38.7 13 |     | $[786.7]$<br>955.3            |  |
| $3: r \ge 0.5$                 | 743.2 | 126.6                 | 31.6 16 |     | [675.7]<br>810.6              |  |

**Table S5** Inter-birth intervals (days), categorized by female relatedness to alpha. 814

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#### *Female-alpha relatedness and probability of infant death* 818

There was a sample of 246 births (105 of which were not genotyped) where the 820alpha male position remained stable from the estimated conception window of the infant 821through to either 1) the end of the infant's first year of life or 2) the infant's death (Table **S3**). Inclusion of ungenotyped infants allowed for us to avoid possible sample bias if inbred 822 823offspring died more often before genetic samples could be collected from them. We ran a 824GLMM to test the effect of relatedness between infants' mothers to the alpha male on the 825probability of an infant dying during early infancy. A positive relationship (i.e. higher infant 826 mortality) would suggest that inbreeding does occur but that the offspring are less viable. 8270ur dataset was comprised of 89 mothers and 24 alpha males from 11 social groups. Our 828response variable was whether an infant died before reaching the age of one (yes/no). Our 829test variables were the levels of relatedness between the infants' mothers and the alpha 830 males:  $0 < r < 0.25$ ,  $0.25 \le r < 0.5$ , and  $r \ge 0.5$ . The identities of mothers, alphas, and groups 831of residence were included as random effects. The full model was not significantly different 832from the null model ( $\chi^2$ <sub>3</sub>=1.860, P=0.6020). Similar results were found when combining all 833r >0 categories and comparing kin versus non-kin ( $\chi^2$ <sub>1</sub>=0.591, P=0.4419). Thus, we found 834no evidence for our inbreeding avoidance patterns actually being the result of a prevalence 835of inbred offspring that died before genetic sample collection. 819

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**Table S6** First year infant mortality rates, categorized by mother's relatedness to alpha. 838

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