

## 72 3/31/26 – On Wet T-Shirt Contests

For the uninitiated, a wet t-shirt contest is a social event where some people – typically women, though they also occur at gay bars – wear white t-shirts and douse themselves with water. Doing so causes the fibers in the clothing to expand apart, causing the body to become visible from under the clothing. Furthermore, articles of clothing may be removed for the purpose of nudity, as part of making efforts to win the contest.

Interestingly, the participants in such a contest are typically not professional performers, but are usually young women on vacation with no prior for sexual performances (i.e. professional strip-dancer, etc.). To be clear, participation in such events, either as a performer or observer, is fairly far from the norm; it is the exception for youthful vacation activities.

Such an activity is unfathomable within the context of typical society; we highly prioritize our privacy and place various restrictions on how we display sexual behavior and related physical attributes. Wet T-Shirt contests are the opposite of these inhibitions we have. The contests are very public and exposed. It makes one feel vulnerable, with all the leery and desperate eyes. In a sober mind, these things are perhaps one's worst nightmare.

These contests are typically also viewed as animalistic, given their impersonal, uninhibited behavior that occurs. They are a human sexuality that is stripped of intellectual involvement, reduced to our most base desires. It is ultimately a meaningless activity; no connections are formed, and the interaction is chiefly selfish. Both parties, the performers and the observers, do nothing "for" the other. The observers gawk, and the performer feels wanted and attractive. In a typical relationship, to maintain it, one must do some things altruistically for the other, even if those things are a pleasure penalty. The sacrifice and unease of relationships are precisely what make them meaningful (distinct from pleasurable).

So then how do people willingly engage in these contests, despite our inhibitions? I believe that these contests are actually an example of wire-heading enabled by primitive cybernetic biotechnology.

Participants at these activities have typically consumed moderate to heavy amounts of alcohol, and this serves the purpose of removing inhibitions. Obviously, the decision to participate in these events is not entirely a function of alcohol consumption, one must have made the prior decision, under a typically sober mind, that they were going to attend the activity.

Alcohol is a cybernetic biotechnology, in that it is an external intervention in our feedback and response loop, as it depresses our nervous system, and allows a wider range of behaviors, many associated with more animalistic, unmediated responses. A public contest involving nudity is pleasurable for many, but an intellectualizing mindset may also be repulsed by it.

By inhibiting the intellectualizing mindset, we are able to obtain some counterfeit happiness, and so the contest is a relatively low tech, very old, wire-heading behavior. So far,

many of the biological cybernetics that humanity has invented have swung in the direction of inhibiting the intellectualizing mindset to free ourselves to enjoy guttural pleasures. Soon, and hopefully, we may be able to move the other direction as well, inhibiting our base and animal side.