**Harambe.**

You are the resident gorilla expert at a large city zoo. Your area of expertise is in silverback gorilla evolution, physiology and behavior. After the recent incident that resulted in the euthanization of Harambe, a male silverback gorilla, at Cincinnati zoo, disputing parties have called on your expertise. Animal rights groups have pressed that Harambe should NOT have been euthanized, while Cincinnati zoo management maintain that under the circumstances, the zoo officials acted appropriately.

You have been called as an impartial, expert witness. Study the footage; study the posing, posturing, stance, the dragging, rapid movement and other behaviors exhibited by Harambe. Research gorilla behaviors, their meanings, and their purpose. Were Harambe’s actions violent and aggressive, or nurturing and protective? Were his actions predictable precursors to follow up behaviors?

**Write a CER**, as gorilla experts, addressing the prompt:

Was Harambe’s behavior aggressive and threatening, or was it nurturing, paternal and protective? In light of his behavior, did Cincinnati Zoo management make the correct decision in euthanizing harambe?

**Remember:** The point of this exercise is to study, research and analyze gorilla/primate behaviors. Were Harambe’s actions violent and aggressive, or nurturing and protective? Were his actions predictable precursors to follow up behaviors?

I am not looking for blame or social commentary.

**CLAIM:**

**EVIDENCE**: use images or footage of 5 different poses, postures, behaviors or otherwise to support your claim. Describe the type of behavior, its intent, evolutionary ”purpose” and explain whether it is a danger sign or not. Use reputable .org , .edu, or .gov sites. Site research papers etc.

**REASONING**: Connect your claim to the prompt. Elaborate on your most compelling pieces of evidence. Reiterate how your evidence supports your claim.

Submit as a google doc, or slides. use images, footage clips etc. Cite sources.