



FIGURE 10.10.
 The new hypothetical family tree of human beings as revised in the 1980s. Black lines represent range of fossil specimens. *A. africanus* is now placed outside the direct line to the Homo specimens. Note also the direct line from *A. afarensis* (represented by Lucy) to *A. africanus* and *A. robustus*, and the rather tentative branching to the Homo line.

anthropologists consider Lucy a possible candidate for the first ancestral human.

Donald Johanson has drawn a new family tree of human ancestors (see figure 10.10). I have taken the liberty of adding to this sketch *Ramapithecus*, which Johanson says "foreshadows hominids."⁹ It is especially noteworthy that Johanson places *A. africanus* outside the hypothetical family tree leading to man. This removal of *A. africanus* from the hypothetical human family line is now widely accepted within the scientific community.

Richard Leakey in his 1982 book, *Human Origins*, presented his choice of the most likely relationships between the fossil hominids.¹⁰ Leakey's chart is reconstructed to conform to the format used by Johanson in Figure 10.11. Note that Leakey places all of the australopithecine hominids including *A. afarensis* (Lucy) outside the hypothetical line leading to man.

If one accepts Leakey's hominid lineup, then not only does the *A. africanus* disappear as a missing link, but also *A. afarensis* disappears