

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Craniofacial Variation in Pacific Populations. Papers Presented at a Symposium. Honolulu, Hawaii, May 30, 1991. Edited by Tasman Brown and Stephen Molnar, Adelaide: Anthropology and Genetics Laboratory, Department of Dentistry, The University of Adelaide. 1992. 150 pp. ISBN 0-86396-141-X. \$29.95 Australian \$29.95, \$19.18 special to DAA members, see insert (paper).*

As is evident in the subtitle, *Craniofacial Variation in Pacific Populations* is a collection of papers derived from a symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii, in May 1991 (see Brace, *Dental Anthropology Newsletter* 6(1):3). The conference was a sequel to a 1988 panel, "The Face and Dentition of Australian Populations", which Tasman Brown and Stephen Molnar organized for the 57th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Kansas City. Therefore, the present book is also a sequel: to the July, 1990, edition of *The American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 82(3), which contains the papers from the 1988 symposium.

Ten out of the 13 papers and five out of the 11 abstracts in *Craniofacial Variation in Pacific Populations* directly relate to the dentition. Of these, two papers deal with population studies, both reporting on moiré imaging results. In the first, Yamada and workers show that Cook Islanders have palates that are deeper and wider than those of Japanese and Chinese. In the second, Kanazawa and associates identify two clusters of Polynesian and Mongoloid populations (1. Japanese and Taiwanese and 2. Cook Islanders and Ainu) based on maxillary first molar occlusal surface tubercles, their term for morphological crown traits.

Three studies use a single trait or principle of dental anthropology to demonstrate geographical or temporal variation. In the first, P. Brown argues that dental and craniofacial metrics along with ecological evidence indicate that, allometrically, tooth size has increased in Australia since the late Pleistocene. In the second, Molnar and Molnar point out through palatal and dental metrics that dental arch morphology and occlusion are important factors in tooth wear patterns. In the third, Townsend and colleagues review possible causal factors related to mirror imaging of twin dentitions.

Case studies make up the materials for two papers. An instance of first molar agenesis and data for additional anomalies in dental patients are reported by Diament and co-workers. Intense craniofacial remodeling and unusual tooth wear associated with unilateral mandibular growth inhibition in a late prehistoric skeleton is reported and well photographed by Pretty and associates.

The authors of two papers deal with interproximal wear. In the first, Kaidonis and colleagues conclude that one mechanism responsible for the heavy interproximal wear in Australian aboriginals is vertical or near vertical tooth movement accompanied by simultaneous tipping. In the second, Richards suggests a slower rate of interproximal wear than that previously reported for Australian Aborigines, because mesiodistal diameters negatively correlate with occlusal wear and age.

The three papers that do not directly relate to teeth are of interest because they deal with the bones of the face and skull vault. Mizoguchi suggests that brachycephalization among modern Japanese is due to increase in brain size, development of the masticatory apparatus, and posture. Mizoguchi helpfully provided a table with descriptive statistics for cranial and postcranial metrics for the modern Japanese male sample, and an offset section of text documenting the published sources of comparative data. Swindler reports on factors (short facial height, broad zygomatic diameters) responsible for the Melanesian craniofacial complex, especially among the Lakalai of New Britain, Melanesia. Here, individuals looking for craniofacial metric data will appreciate the table of descriptive statistics that accompanies the article. The third non-dental article reports mirror image facial asymmetry in monozygotic twins. The last six pages of the book contain seven abstracts by Brace et al., Katayama, Turner, Prokopec and Pretty, Smith and Rosen, Houghton and Kean, Kean and Houghton, Neville et al., Neville et al., Taylor et al., and K. Brown et al.

*Craniofacial Variation in Pacific Populations* is a valuable contribution to the library of the dental anthropologist for four reasons. First, the papers complement those published in the *Journal of American Physical Anthropology* 82(3). No article is repeated and some, such as those by Molnar and Molnar, and Clarke, follow up on their 1990 articles with additional information. Second, the articles in both books contribute substantially to our growing body of information on the physical anthropology of the Pacific. Third, the book is available to unaffiliated anthropologists; in other words, you need not be a member a professional society and subscribe to a journal in order to own it. Fourth, the book is affordable. Finally, the editors are to be congratulated, because of the short time between the symposium in May 1991 and the publication of the papers just one year later.

A.M. Haeussler

## Letters

Dear Dr. Molnar,

I am the Chairman of the Dade County Research Center in Miami, Florida. I am currently the chairman of the implant section and have been co-chairman for the past twenty-six years. We are directly associated with the University of Miami School of Medicine and have been performing in the field of implantology for the past twenty-eight years in this area.

I would like to ask you or your membership whether there is any information either in publications or any form of research regarding implantology as it was done many hundreds of years ago. It would be greatly appreciated if that