

knowledge of her surroundings is crucial for her infant's survival. A female with intimate knowledge about the foods, travel routes, and idiosyncracies of her social partners can provide her infant better care and protection. Therefore, she may be reluctant to emigrate from familiar social and geographical surroundings.

Fedigan's discussion of the ontogeny of sex differences is enlightening, especially her discussion of research involving physiological factors affecting the ontogeny of sex differences. She is particularly harsh in her analysis of hormonal research on sex differences. Her position will not endear her to researchers of hormonal influences on sexual differentiation. Fedigan states that much of the argumentation over hormonal bases of sexual differentiation is questionable and "...stems not from the research results themselves, but from a common misconception of the dichotomy or mutual exclusivity of female and male patterns" (p. 167). She castigates the failure to consider the range of female and male behaviors. Fedigan is particularly at odds with deprivation studies, especially Harlow's studies, purporting to show sex differences in behavior. Laboratory-oriented researchers may be unhappy with her conclusions.

Fedigan's viewpoint is quite evident in her discussion of sexual selection. If sexual selection is to become a viable explanatory theory "...then our understanding of female choice

must be greatly augmented" (p. 277). Fedigan decries the impression that female choice plays little role in primate reproduction. Her arguments to the contrary are persuasive.

Fedigan presents a well-reasoned discussion of sociobiology as it relates to behavioral sexual differences. She raises many questions about Triver's model of investments "...many of the inferences widely drawn from his model...would also seem to be unwarranted" (p. 303). She concludes that "...the assumption that females are losers in competition between the sexes,...does not seem to me to be inherently necessary to evolutionary theories, precisely because it is a cultural assumption rather than a biological given" (p. 306).

The last chapter discusses theories of the evolution of human social life. Fedigan provides thought-provoking comments on the "baboonization" model, the gelada model, and the chimpanzee model of human social organization and behavior. She makes the interesting suggestion that vervets would be an appropriate model for reconstructing human behavior and social organization.

This book is packed with information, full of stimulating ideas and will generate much lively discussion. It can be fruitfully used in introductory, intermediate or graduate classes.

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SERIAL CHANGES IN SUBCUTANEOUS FAT THICKNESSES OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS. By A. F. Roche, R. M. Siervogel, W. C. Chumlea, R. B. Reed, D. Eichorn, and R. M. McCammon. Basel, Switzerland: Karger Monographs in Paediatrics, Vol. 17. 1982. x + 110 pp., figures, tables, references, index. \$47.50 (paper).

Let me have men about me that are
fat,
Sleek-headed men and such as sleep o'
nights.
Yond Cassius has a lean and hungry
look.
He thinks too much, such men are
dangerous.

Julius Caesar
Shakespeare

The question that the human auxologist asks after reading *Julius Caesar* is "Do fat, bushy-haired boys become fat, sleek-headed men and, conversely, was Cassius also lean (and hungry) as a boy?" This question is important because of the relative health risks of leanness versus obesity. Cassius' leanness proved to be a fatal health risk for Caesar. Contemporary epidemiologists find that fatness is associated with many health risks in the obese adult. If levels of fatness could be predicted at an early age, treatment for adult obesity could begin at that age and the negative consequences of obesity in later life might be avoided.

Alex Roche and his colleagues attempt to answer the auxologist's question about the longitudinal stability of body fatness. They review data compiled by six United States

longitudinal studies—Denver, Fels, Berkeley, Harvard, Guidance, and Oakland—and the Melbourne, Australia growth study. Analyzed from these studies are 46 sets of data covering 15 different skinfold measurements and their combinations and eight different radiographic measurements of fat thickness. Almost 2000 normal white children and adults make up the sample. This wealth of data is awesome. The skillful analysis, synthesis, and presentation by the authors is commendable.

The authors use quartile distributions and age-to-age correlations to relate fatness at a younger age with fatness at a later age. The analyses for each skinfold or radiographic site are presented separately, and specialists will be interested in the trends for individual sites. Most readers will be interested in the general trends and the author's general conclusions after all these fat statistics are rendered into a palatable form. The authors find that there is "a marked tendency for the quartile rank of a subcutaneous fat thickness to be retained across age, if the early examinations are made after 4 years." Prior to age 4, fatness between ages is not significantly correlated. After age 6, the fattest children show an increased risk of adult obesity.

The literature review and discussion sections of the monograph are brief, perhaps too

brief. Some relevant papers on the selection of skinfold sites, e.g., Mueller and Reid (1979) and on the longitudinal changes in fatness, e.g., Johnston and Mack (1978), are not mentioned. The seven studies reviewed in this monograph are based on samples of white, middle to upper middle class children and adults. Since class and ethnicity are known to correlate with fat patterning and obesity, this reader would have liked to have seen more discussion of the generalizability of the findings.

Specialists in human growth and body composition and epidemiologists interested in obesity will need to read and refer to this monograph for many years. I suggest that these people recommend its purchase to their libraries, since the high cost of the monograph should be shared by many readers.

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LITERATURE CITED

- Johnston, FE, and Mack, RW (1978) Obesity in urban, black adolescents of high and low relative weight at 1 year of age. *Am. J. Dis. Child.* 132:862-864.
Mueller, WH, and Reid, RM (1979) A multivariate analysis of fatness and relative fat patterning. *Am. J. Phys. Anthropol.* 50:199-208.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF BERINGIA. By F.H. West. New York: Columbia University Press. 1981. xviii + 268 pp., figures, tables, references, indices. \$30.00 (cloth).

The peopling of the New World from Siberia is an event of early and continuing interest to physical anthropologists. Therefore, a book on the archeology of a critical area, Beringia, is of interest for the light that it may shed on contextual aspects of this significant human event.

The author, an original and experienced field worker in interior Alaskan archeology examines the relationships of Alaskan cultures to the larger picture of archeologically defined cultures in Northeastern Siberia and in the American southwest. His assignation of Denali for many sites in the Alaskan inte-

rior is welcome. Dyuktai is used to characterize the Siberian culture of northeastern Siberia, and Clovis is employed in its broader sense for the fluted point cultures of the American southwest and its larger area of related fluted point cultures.

In six chapters the author moves from the remnants of Beringia to a reconstruction of the late Pleistocene environment of Beringia, the archeology, the origin and relationships of the eastern branch of the Beringian tradition, followed by the Beringian tradition and the origin of New World cultures, and concludes with an epilogue, "The Beringians and Beyond." West describes a major assumption of his book by remarking that the overall framework for solving the problems of human origins in the north lies in the reconstruction of the late Pleistocene-early Holocene landscapes of Beringia.