Anthropology 455

Human Biology of the Pacific: Health and Disease in Precontact and Historic Hawai`i

Focus on Hawaii: skeletal studies


Columbus 1492
In the Wake of Contact: Biological Responses to Conquest. pp. 179-196.
New York: Wiley-Liss, Inc.


Captain James Cook 1778
Early Merchants & Missionaries

First Hawaiians

Time of Contact with Europeans
Post-Contact (after 1778)

- Great Mahele 1848

Samuel Kamakau

Charles E. Snow 1974

EARLY HAWAIIANS: INITIAL STUDY OF SKELETAL REMAINS FROM MOKAPU, OAHU. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky
Honakahua, Maui


Mokapu

Skeletal Series from Hawai`i

- 7 Prehistoric
- 4 Historic
Indicators of Stress

- Mortality
- Stature
- Enamel hypoplasia

Cribra orbitalia & Infection

Trauma and Degenerative Joint Disease
Dental Pathology

Mortality Data

Male Stature
Female Stature

Enamel Hypoplasia

Enamel Hypoplasia
Degenerative Joint Disease

Dental Paleopathology
- Premortem tooth loss
- Dental caries
- Abscessing

Dental Pathology
Periodontal Disease

- Calculus
- Resorption

Periodontal Disease & Attrition

Infectious Disease

- Tuberculosis
Infectious Disease

- Treponemal Diseases (e.g., syphilis, yaws)

Kaka`ako, Oahu (Smallpox)

Barber’s Point, Oahu (AD 1425-1650)

- Possible Treponematosis (congenital syphilis)
Conclusions

- significant increase in enamel hypoplasia
- more extreme osteoarthritis in historic skeletal series.
- calculus and alveolar resorption significantly different.
- severe dental attrition in precontact Hawaiians
- no significant differences: stature, *cribra orbitalia*, bone fractures, dental caries and premortem tooth loss
- evidence of infectious diseases [*treponemal disease* (yaws or syphilis); tuberculosis]