

Sociopolitical Org. & Archaeology

Social organization: The rules and structures that govern relation within a group of interacting people
Different perceptions of how we perceive each other, self, culture, etc.

Political Organization: a society; formal & informal institutions that regulate a populations collective acts

Variation that exist between cultures

Gender

- Biological or cultural
- Race is also cultural
- It is a social organization
- While sex refers to biological differences between male and female, gender is a social
- Gender is a social org. depending on culture
- Gender roles- are the cultural ideas, a sort of behavior associated with each other
- Gender Ideology defines how a culture values each gender
 - o Varies from culture
 - o Dance to the Berdach (two-spirit)
 - Celebrated a person with 2 gender roles
 - They were lucky, powerful, good
 - o Our culture is binary, which is man& woman

Gender & Archaeology

Androcentric bias

If we find what's in the burial, we assume the person was linked to the material

2007 Nepal Third gender category: not just male or female

We Wha (Zuni)

- Two spirited individuals
- Navajo terminology states there are more than 3 genders, there are different aspects of individuals
- There is also age terminology
- Political & social system related to Gender and Age

Gender & Ethnographic Analogy

Trying to understand culture

Ethnography looks at change, how culture perceives to be

Gender & Iconography

Use symbolism to look at gender

Mayan women could be queens and had different roles than men

Gender & Burial Data

El Brujo, Moche culture AD 450

Women more powerful than men

Women had grave goods, and prayers tattooed

She had power, a great queen

Kinship

- Relationship between different people
- Rules they regulate relationship[between people
- There are different types, (subgroups) of what we define as kinship

Bilateral descent

- Descent lines that trace families (our culture)
- Descent is traced equally from both parents
- Married couples live away from their parents (neolocal residence)
- Interference is allocated among all children

Patrilineal Descent

- Only recognize fathers descent
- Found among 60% of all cultures
- Found in S. Asia and E. Asia

What's in a name in Hong Kong?

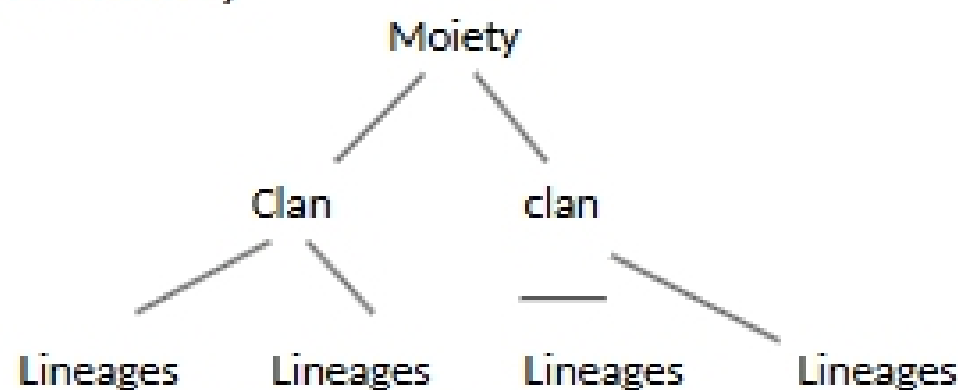
- Ha Tsuen in N.W. Hong Kong
- Women only produce male
- Women don't own property
- Patrilocal Residence Pattern
 - Live near man's family, there is value

Matrilineal Descent

- ❖ Found in 15% of all cultures
- ❖ Kinship is traced through female line
- ❖ Women control land and products
- ❖ Found in S.E. Asia, South Pacific, Europe, and North America
- ❖ Iroquoian longhouses -Matrilocal
 - Female centered households

Lineages, Clans, and Moieties

Moiety- is a group of people that are from different descent, they combine into a tribe and form a society



Pueblo Bonito, Chaco canyon

Moiety Division who shared roles of society

Solstices define who is in charge, changes between solstice

Status

- The right, duties, privileges, powers, liabilities, and immunities that lead to a recognized and named social position

Ascribed Status

- Rights and duties by inheritance (born with it)

Achieved Status

- Status by accomplishment

Egalitarian Societies

- The number of status positions is equal to the number of persons without the ability to fill them
- What abilities you have
- No individual wields compete authority over another
- Individuals Generally have equal access to life sustaining resources

Bands

- A residential group of a few nuclear families, whose membership is neither permanent of binding
- Network relationship that connects groups
- Reciprocity
- Leadership roles based on situations
- Most bands emphasize equal relationship
- Usually small groups of hunter gatherers such as the Shoshone of the Great Basin
 - Julian Stewart
 - Nuts in one area and fishing sticks in another

Domestication of plants

Gathering- wild plants by hand & using a digging stick

- We see gathering happening in Bands
- As agriculture begins so does politics
- Forage wild plant by hands
- Egalitarian life style, no indication of hierarchy
 - Acquire food based on time of year
 - Smaller populations reliant on making sure everyone eats
 - Have knowledge of what nature provides

Horticulture- Cultivation domesticated plants with hand tools, slash and burn, usually part time

- Used usually by tribes
- Defined gender roles
- Foraging and limited forms of agriculture
- more complex society, certain people have power

Intensive Agriculture- cultivation domesticated plants with draft animals, machinery, or hand tools, permanent fields, often irrigated, fertilizers.

- Used usually in chiefdoms and states
- Genetically modified food, been doing this for about 12,000 thousand years
- Develop need for more food