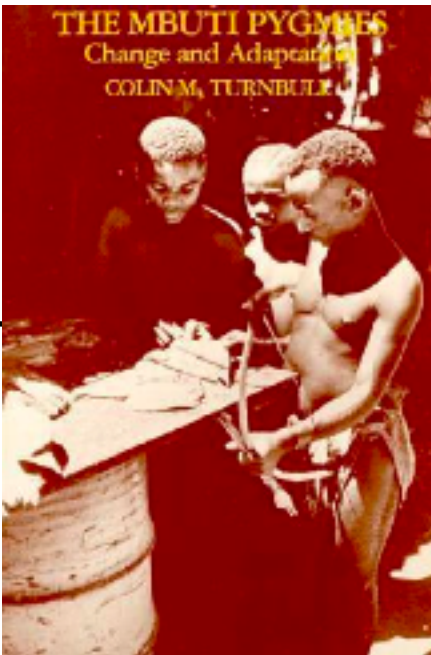# The hunter-gatherer social learning data

A systematic cross-cultural sample

Mbuti,
Central Africa

Cite

Turnbull, Colin M.
The Mbuti Pygmies: change and adaptation

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Section: ELDERS AND ARBITRATION
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It was at moments like this that the elders came into prominence. In the Mbuti scheme of things age was clearly the dominant principle of social organization, with territory hard on its heels, then gender, and kinship lagging behind. The responsibility allocated to childhood was that of ritual purification, most specifically in the daily act of lighting the hunting fire. The youths had full control of the political arena, and the adults were fully occupied with all the major economic responsibilities. The role of the elders was the one, as vital as all the others, of socialization. During the daytime, when youths and adults were off on the hunt, the elders mostly stayed behind in the camp, looking after the young children. By playing with them, acting out great sagas of the hunting and gathering days of yore, or just by lying back under the trees and telling stories, old women and men, the tata of the camp, filled the youngsters with their own love of the forest, their trust in it, and their respect for the forest values that made life so good.

Age stratification (561)
Status of children (858)
Transmission of cultural norms (867)
Status of adolescents (882)
Activities of the aged (887)
Status and treatment of the aged (888)

Domain: Cultural values,
Mode: Oblique,
Process:Teaching (storytelling)
Age: Early childhood
Gender: Neutral

Domain: Subsistence
Mode: Oblique
Process: Collaborative learning
Age: Early childhood
Gender: Neutral

Predictors of evidence for teaching

Counts of evidence for teaching

Using subject codes to predict counts of evidence for teaching at the paragraph level [0..7]

43 unique subject code predictors

Poisson distributed elastic net lasso regression, λ minimum & λ 1SE via 20-fold CV