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The Late Holocene Occupation of Mafunyane Shelter, Eastern Botswana

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Keywords:

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hello world Wood, 2011; Alexander, 1984; Van Doornum, 2014; Van Doornum, 2005; Reid, Sadr, and Hanson-James, 1998; Schoeman, 2006; Van Doornum, 2008; Walker, 1994; Deacon, 1984; Van Doornum, 2007

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2–3 % Neanderthal, 5 % Denisovan, but 100 % Human: Constructing Identity from the Genetic Past

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There has been a veritable explosion of archaeogenetic studies after the Human Genome was published in 2010. Among such studies, the sequencing of the Neanderthal genome provided new insight into human evolution and the past relationships between Homo sapiens and Homo neanderthalensis, even providing evidence for interbreeding. With an average of 2–3% of genes considered to originate from the Neanderthal line being present in Europeans, and current estimates of up to 20% Neanderthal contribution to the human genome, there has been a reconsideration of what makes us human. This paper presents a discussion of group and individual constructions of identity in an archaeogenetic world, using selected reactions to Neanderthal Genome Project and the Genographic Project by the general public as case studies.

Keywords: Identity, genetics, Neanderthal, archaeogenetics, genome.

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Zeder, 2006; Green et al., 2010; Wilson et al., 2012; Caruana and Morgan, 1996; Mizoguchi, 2015; Sayer and Wienhold, 2013; Liddell and Scott, 1940; Meyer et al., 2012; Thapar, 1991; B. G. Trigger, 2006; B. Trigger, 2006; Leidwanger et al., 2014; Lal, 2001; Meta, 2006; Tilley, 1994; Monfort, 2006; O'Brien, 2009; Silliman, 2015; Hunter and Keppie, 2012; Neighbour, 2007; Driel, 2000

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* Ariane Maggio is an honours student at the University of Western Australia with a BA in Archaeology, a BSc in Genetics, and a Masters in Forensic Science (Anthropology). She has recently submitted her honours thesis, which focused on how the concept of the gene has been constructed, interpreted, and translated in modern human origins studies, using the example of Mitochondrial Eve as a case study. She also volunteers with a local youth archaeology group teaching archaeological practice to children.

Abstract (in French see below)

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