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October 27, 2014

Dear Dr. Lancaster,

Please find enclosed a manuscript entitled: Childcare Dynamics and Women's Residential Autonomy

The paper demonstrates how a woman's best source of childcare assistance is likely to shift from her own mother to her early-born daughters as she progresses through her reproductive career. This shift is important to understanding postmarital residence, because the former source is tied to the natal camp while the latter offers a mobile alternative and frees mothers to respond to other residence incentives. I use a computer simulation to highlight this pattern and argue its importance for explaining the delayed female dispersal which is common among hunter-gatherer societies. This paper should appeal to readers interested in postmarital residence, bride-service, or the broader animal literature on dispersal and philopatry, as well as readers interested in cooperative breeding, particularly the role of "helpers at the nest."

This article has not been submitted to any other journals and represents no conflicts of interest for the author.

Thank you for your consideration. Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me by email at (Layne.Vashro@anthro.utah.edu)

Sincerely,

Layne J. Vashro