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Byrnes, Jennifer F., Muller, Jennifer L. (Eds.), University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu, Kapolei, HI, USA

Bioarchaeology of Impairment and Disability

Theoretical, Ethnohistorical, and Methodological Perspectives

- Discusses disciplinary boundaries through the engagement of social theories in the interpretations of impairment and disability in the past
- Features research that examines the documentary, iconological, ethnographic, archaeological, and skeletal archives in order to explore the historical, social, and biological causes and consequences of disability
- Explores what it means to be disabled and/or impaired within particular temporal and cultural contexts

Over the years, impairment has been discussed in bioarchaeology, with some scholars providing carefully contextualized explanations for their causes and consequences. Such investigations typically take a case study approach and focus on the functional aspects of impairments. However, these interpretations are disconnected from disability theory discourse. Other social sciences and the humanities have far surpassed most of anthropology (with the exception of medical anthropology) in their integration of social theories of disability. This volume has three goals: The first goal of this edited volume is to present theoretical and methodological discussions on impairment and disability. The second goal of this volume is to emphasize the necessity of interdisciplinarity in discussions of impairment and disability within bioarchaeology. The third goal of the volume is to present various methodological approaches to quantifying impairment in skeletonized and mummified remains. This volume serves to engage scholars from many disciplines in our exploration of disability in the past, with particular emphasis on the bioarchaeological context.

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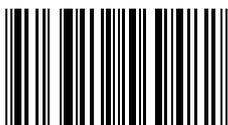
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