Mismatch: Translating Concepts of Evolutionary Psychology Into an Aggregation of Various Aesthetic Mediums

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Contents of This Presentation:

1. Evolutionary Mismatch: defined
2. Subsections of Mismatch itself
3. Tying Visual and Conceptual Artwork to Psychology
4. Ceramic and Acrylic Process
5. Concluding thoughts
Aspects of my Thesis, and its Relation to Interdisciplinary Learning:

01 Major
   Literature Review

02 Minor
   Basis of my proposed thesis

03 Minor
   Application of learned information
Preliminary Knowledge in Regard to Evolutionary Mismatch

Nomadic tribes: composed of kin members and other close relationships in which humans were in a state of

-constant exercise
-experiential learning
-and overall closeness to those they loved and cared for.

~two million years, our ancestors hunted and gathered to sustain themselves, and lived a life based on constant nourishment (Giphart & van Vught, 2018).
Continued:

- Discovery of agriculture

Exigency of cultural and revolutionary changes began to swallow the familiarity of nomadic life.

The track of our biology in comparison to our cultural evolution are moving at vastly different rates— and we as humans are experiencing rapid progress and are trying to survive under these conditions with our primitive brains (Giphart & van Vught, 2018).
Evolutionary Mismatch... Defined

Summarized→ in which a species under modern conditions, are no longer well suited for the conditions of their environment—and as a result, their chances of successful survival and reproductive ability are impaired, and have the potential to diminish completely (Geher, 2013)

Comparing nomadic conditions to modern conditions
Ultimate Success and Subconscious Behavior

We as a whole subconsciously work towards generating scenarios and making connections with people that will bolster our success in an ultimate manner (Geher & Wedberg, 2020).

Humans are wired to work toward ensuring the projection of their own genes into the future.
References and Sketches: Acrylic Work
Technological Mismatch:

Increased levels of instant communication are extremely convenient and beneficial in many circumstances

→ have the potential to undermine human connection and interpersonal relationships (Sbarra, Briskin, & Slatcher, 2019)

**Absent presence:** a negative consequence that evolutionary mismatch brings forth in humans... when people are unable to focus on interpersonal connection due to a distraction (e.g., technology).
The Ceramic Process

30% 
Brainstorming, Sketching and understanding the feasibility of the work

50% 
Construction and decoration in greenware

20% 
Firing process, and presentation of the work
References and Sketches: Ceramic Work

Ceramics; coil built face jug:

- Fill the entire jug with wrappers of junk food
  → chips, candy wrappers, etc.
  → 11-12 in
  → sculpted
  → 7 in. base

**Sculpted aspects**
- eyes
- nose
- lips
- ears
- eyelids/eyebrows

The cheeks & chin will be manipulated to the proper shape during construction.

**Colors:**
- eyelids: underglaze in a bright blue & apply a paler version of that blue to the under eyes
- pupils: black
- reflection/eyeball: white with a slight pink hue
- cheeks: slightly green
  → indicating sickness

Ceramic; coil built piece #1

- roll, slab base
- coil build ↑ & out
- create lip forms
- create teeth forms
- create lollipop
  → separate & space to attach from bowl
- scratch & lava into base
- carve deep markings into the side & back of opened mouth

**Separate candy piece(s):**
- lollipop hollow
  → glazed in oxidation
  → chime
- 2nd candy piece?

**Colors**
- lips: mix white/red underglaze & a slightly light red
  → 1/2 red/1 white
- uvula: equal parts red/white
- teeth: white with hints of yellow
  → back of teeth/browny/grey, etc.
- base of mouth (2 blue & 1 bluish)
  → finish in clear glaze
  → fire in reduction?
Ceramic Work Continued:

**THESIS PIECES (cont.)**

- Educational mismatch
- Large brain with cap opening
- Pencil attached
- String colored yarn through attached string
- Insert items into the ends

8 3/4 in.

**COLORS:**
- Red Unbeknown
- Pink
- White
- Frank’s Clear

**CONNECTIONS**

- Phone in hand?
- Mic under phone?
- Could find cord of old phone use?

**SIZE:** 6 in. wide
Construction:
Mismatch of Our Educational Systems

Children have a natural instinct to emulate the skills of their elders, and those older than them, to gain cultural knowledge and applicable skills that will increase their survival and reproductive ability.

high levels of selective pressure for children to be successful in obtaining educational skills
Mismatch of Education: Continued

- Instead of being placed in mixed-age classrooms where one learns different things from others, as well as engaging in teaching themselves

→ Students are being placed forcibly in age-segregated classrooms.
Evolutionary Mismatch: Familial Ties
Social relationships are what fuel humans
→ We thrive from creating and keeping long standing relationships, and bond through caring for one another.

→ seen across cultures through caretaking.

Under modern conditions, extended family members, if displaced from their family members feel as though they are missing out on important milestones in one’s life.
Mismatch of Diet: The Ceramic Process
Mismatch of Modern Diet: Continued

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. Venus is the second planet from the Sun.
Mismatch: DIET

The features of our food preference adaptations, in wanting to consume foods high in sugar and fats, has shaped our current environment in comparison to our ancestral environment of potential food scarcity.

This subconsciously motivates many to eat much more than we should in our mismatched, food-rich environment.
The “Light Side” to Understanding Evolutionary Mismatch

1. make better conscious decisions in the best interest of themself

2. bolstering decision making that promotes an environment that better matches those of our ancestors.
   - Recognizing both the positive and negative aspects to evolutionary mismatch
   - Effects on health and well-being at both an individual and collective level
THANK YOU!

If anyone is interested in reading my literature review that delves into these topics in a more thorough way, please contact me!

Questions?

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