Hominins

Science, Anthropology



Walking with Caveman The evolution story shows the development of human beings using representative members. It describes the characteristics of various species of human beings from the most primitive being up to the modern Homo sapiens. The documentary bases on climatic changes as the main cause of change in the characteristics of different species of human beings. The film provides vignettes that are both exploratory and provocative.

It follows the characteristics that make up modern human beings. It starts with Australopithecus Afarensis to the contemporary Homo sapiens. It emphasizes on the main theme that associate with human evolution. The original airing of the film was on March 27, 2003. It reveals the events that occurred nearly three million years ago (Turner 67). Professor Winston achieves to trace the history of humankind from the ape-man to the upright man. The film also captures the main points such as stone tool manufacture, meat eating, extended childhood, and bipedalism.

The development stages start with an Afarensis, Lucy, also called the "First Ancestor." The ape was the first primate to walk on two legs. Lucy's societies engage in leadership conflict. The film focuses on the bipedality of the species. The second species is "Blood Bothers" that mainly dominates East Africa. The species consists of Homo habilis, Paranthropus boisei, and Homo rudolfensis. The third species in the tree is "Savage Family" which consists of Homo erectus and Homo ergaster (Barry, Robert, and Lynn 56). The setting of the species is Kenya and China. The last species in the species is "The Survivor" that includes Homo sapiens idaltu, Homo sapiens, Neanderthal and Homo heidelbergensis.

The film has the strengths of enabling the audience to understand the evolution of human beings successfully. It presents the species as they occur in n orderly manner. It does well in covering the main these and events in human evolution. It gives detailed explanations on the environmental factors that could have influenced the species to acquire their distinct characteristics (Turner 79). The films use special effects from the latest scientific theories to enable the audience understand t easily. The film uses good visual effects that appeal to the audience.

Though the film achieves to provide a comprehensive explanation about the evolution of human beings, it has some flaws. It uses a weak theory. For instance, it does not analyze the factors that the species were responding to when acquiring specific features. Strong theories should give evidence and the forces that led to changing of features of a particular species to another (Barry, Robert, and Lynn 56). It mentions certain challenges that human ancestors faced as well as the advances that they went through but fails to give a logical description of the forces that compelled change in the particular environments.

I recommend the film for future A 103 and other courses that study evolution on human beings. It gives a sequential order of events as they took place from the first ancestors to the modern man. It has vivid visual combination that is easy to understand (Turner 89). The film also uses latest scientific theories.

Works Cited

Barry, Leiws., Robert, Jurmain and Lynn, Kilgore. Understanding Humans: Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Archaeology. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2012. Print.

Turner, Jonathan. On the Origins of Human Emotions: A Sociological Inquiry into the Evolution of Human Affect. Stanford, Calif: Stanford University Press, 2000. Print.