

John F. McDermott, Jr., Wen-Shing Tseng, and Thomas W. Marezki,
Eds. *People and Cultures of Hawaii: A Psychocultural Profile*. Hono-
lulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1980. Paperback p. x, 241, refer-
ences, index. \$7.50.

Staff members of the Department of Psychiatry, John A. Burns School of Medicine, along with some other specialists, are responsible for this excellent volume. Their primary concern is the training of future physicians in the Fiftieth State, but they here apply their skills to a wider range of interests and broader group of readers with delightful results. I doubt if anyone would want to miss this captivating and instructive book for its psychological, cultural and humanitarian implications.

Twenty-one contributors provide the twelve chapters on the peoples of modern Hawaii, a unique combination of Caucasian, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaiian, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Okinawan, Portuguese, Samoan and Vietnamese peoples. The social character of each cultural identity is examined from the point of view of its history, the peoples' modes of immigration, assimilation, and their modern day situation. The findings are then discussed in relation to the mental health issues of each group.

Chapter One opens with an introduction by John F. McDermott, Jr., who shows how the people came to meet the need for low-cost plantation labour and also to escape the drabness and poverty experienced in their homelands. In subsequent chapters, Benjamin B. C. Young discusses adaptive problems of both the traditional and modern Hawaiian; W. F. Char, W. S. Tseng, K. Y. Lum and J. Hsu elaborate on the Chinese and indicate how strong the original culture is in the way it still exerts an influence on all Chinese in Hawaii. T. A. Rogers and S. Izutsu review the history and assimilation of the Japanese, as does E. W. Carvalho in respect of the Portuguese. The Okinawans are dealt with by W. P. Lebra and the Samoans by R. A. Markoff and J. R. Bond. Cheryl Tack and colleagues outline what is essentially a more recent refugee problem rather than an immigration problem of the different peoples from Indochina.

Koreans are viewed as a proud people hypersensitive in interactions with others, particularly in the area of social prestige. Whether this observation applies more specifically to them than it does to others, or is merely one of degree, is open to question, but it is clearly of great importance. Y. S. K. Harvey and S. H. Chung in their valuable survey, outline the need to be fully aware of this. They see it as crucial that mental health professionals recognize this allegedly unique cultural proclivity in order to be effective in their work. Role gratification is a central value with predisposition to guilt in those with self-perception as role failures. The Koreans tend to be reluctant in seeking psychiatric advice where this seems indicated, but when it is, long treatment programs with empathy based on clear cultural understanding are necessary. A long preliminary period of supportive therapy is also generally needed to establish the trust of Korean patients.

Particularly intriguing is D. E. Ponce's account of the highly structured Filipino society and its impact upon and interaction with the peoples of Hawaii, Separate languages with correspondingly discrete cultures and social characters tend to characterize the three major geographical areas of the Philippines. This regionalism is represented in the three waves of immigration. Tagalogs came first, the Visayans followed and the Ilocanos were the last to migrate. After the Spanish conceded the Philip-

pinos to the United States in 1898, the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association shifted recruitment activities from China and Japan as the Filipino was now free to travel to the United States without restraint. A labor shortage was again demonstrated after the Second World War and 7,000 new workers with 450 wives and 900 children made their appearance in 1946. A third wave arose following the 1965 Immigration Act with the Philippines quota increase to the per country limit of 20,000. Forman shows how the Filipino coping behaviors emanating from such diverse backgrounds were supported by skills to develop extensive alliance systems. These systems involved a mutually acceptable exchange of goods and services in an atmosphere of goodwill. Ponce ends this brief account of the Filipino social character in the new context with advice based on clinical experience. From the foregoing it would appear that Filipinos with mental health problems respond better to pragmatic approaches than to formal Caucasian ones.

Caucasians are grouped together in view of socially relevant traditions. T. W. Marezki and J. F. McDermott, Jr., portray the manner in which this group of discrete ethnic identities have thought themselves a standard of reference for all the others until more recent times. The Masie case during the inter-war period of the 1930s is described in view of its impact on the entire population. Guilt, shame and indignation were widespread. This isolated event is credited with initiating the end of blatant racism in the country. Modern Caucasian communication emphasizes openness and frankness without too deep an involvement. It is low on ritual, in contrast with other ethnic lifestyles to the continuing amazement of the more traditional non-Caucasian.

On the whole, the book is a first-rate attempt to pull together the major contributions of several decades of research. As such it will appeal particularly to the newcomer who seeks enlightenment on a complex situation. In addition, the individual authors have added their own findings and insights. Almost all of the chapters have been written or co-authored by a member of the culture described. I would have liked to have seen a more detailed account of the people of mixed ancestry and the problems they confront, with possible solutions along the lines of the work of Cedric Dover, H. F. Dickie-Clark and others in respect to bipolar situations, although reference is made to intermarriage throughout the text and the trend toward an interethnic society in the future is referred to in the final chapter. This scholarly volume lives up to its goal to fit appropriately the broad audience for which it was designed.

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