

選抜制度	日 程	研究科	専 攻	科 目	
一般	Ⅱ 期	家政学研究科	人間生活学専攻	外国語(英語)	
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次の英文を要約しなさい。

The Adornment or Decoration Theory

The most widely accepted theory used to explain the original purpose of clothing relates to adornment or decoration, the creative urge for an artistic experience. To adorn means to “make attractive” or to “lend beauty” and in the case of clothing, the object of adornment becomes the self. Adornment includes anything worn above and beyond purely physical needs. Those who accept this theory believe that all people have an urge to express themselves creatively and this urge to improve the appearance is universal. It is a fact that there are no people known to us, past or present, who do not adorn their bodies in some fashion.

The idea that the need to adorn is an important part of human activity is supported by the observation that even apes attempt to decorate themselves with bits of string or cloth. Experiments at the London Zoo have shown that apes like bright objects and they seem to have some color awareness and color preferences as well. It appears that the color is worn by the male for the female to appreciate.

It is probable that various forms of adornment, such as body painting, tattooing, scarification, mutilation, and deformation, preceded the actual wearing of clothes. Many of these practices are still found in primitive societies, or in modified form in our own, but all such forms of decoration, including clothing, have in common a desire for admiration, striving to make the body more beautiful than nature made it (as beauty is conceived in a particular cultural setting). There are few people who do not decorate or mold the body in some way in order to appear more beautiful, and many will submit to extreme pain to do so. The use of lipstick and eyeshadow falls in the same category, and the modern American woman may still pierce her ears, pluck her eyebrows, shave her legs, or undergo plastic surgery.

The desire for beauty is consciously recognized by most people; it is accepted so generally that there has been little systematic research that attempts to establish the relative importance assigned by individuals to the aesthetic values in dress. However, in

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the study by Barr cited, earlier, the desire to be beautiful was found to be one of the most common attitudes in individual and group motivations; subjects attached relatively high value to the aesthetic factors in clothing selection. Lapitsky’s work also indicates that aesthetic values in clothing are extremely significant among adult women. Consumer preference studies give further indication that a nice appearance in dress is often rated higher than such factors as price and durability in making clothing decisions. As long ago as the 1940s appearance was found to be one of the most important criteria considered by men in the selection and purchase of shirts and other articles. As the environment becomes more controlled and our clothing easier to care for, the functional nature of clothing becomes even less important. Men have become fashion conscious and place high value on their appearance. Recent evidence indicates that style and fashion have become important reasons for men’s buying motivations.

(Horn, M.J. & Gurel L.M. (1981).

The second skin: An interdisciplinary study of clothing. Houghton Mifflin School, pp. 26-27.)

- adornment 装飾(自身を装飾する行為)
- urge 衝動 apes 類人猿 bits of 小さな
- scarfication 皮膚を傷付けたり火傷させること
- mutilation 切断・切除

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No. 3

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