Stress during childhood can leave permanent markers on the teeth known as linear enamel hypoplasias or LEH. Sample breakdown

26
Early Jim Crow
References
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LEH width ≥ .50mm
There was also a near significant difference (p=0.027) in the occurrence of LEH width ≥ .25mm in African Americans during Early Jim Crow compared to Reconstruction, but not for Caucasians (p=0.564).

30
Total
Present
There was a difference (p=.052) in the occurrence of LEH rank severity of LEH between African Americans and Caucasians during the Early Jim Crow era.

RESULTS

Predictions supported (Figures 1-3):

• LEH was present in almost all individuals at a 95% occurrence.
• There was a significant difference (p=0.012) between the occurrence of severe (≥ 50mm) LEH on the incisors of African Americans born during Reconstruction and the Early Jim Crow era but not for Caucasians (p=0.056).
• There was also a near significant difference (p=0.027) in the occurrence of LEH for African Americans during Early Jim Crow compared to Reconstruction, but not for Caucasians (p=0.672).
• There was a difference (p=.052) in the occurrence of ranked severity of LEH between African Americans and Caucasians during the Early Jim Crow era.

Conclusions

• Despite both ethnicities and all time frames having a high occurrence of LEH (Figure 1), there was a significant increase in LEH ≥ 50mm in African Americans born during Jim Crow compared to African Americans born during Reconstruction. Additionally, there was not a significant difference in LEH ≥ 50mm in Caucasians born during Early Jim Crow compared to Caucasians born during Reconstruction. There was also a near significant difference in overall ranked severity of LEH between African Americans and Caucasians for the Early Jim Crow era.
• High LEH occurrence may be indicative of higher stress associated with low socioeconomic class. The higher occurrence of greater width LEH for African Americans during the Early Jim Crow era may be indicative of more severe or prolonged stress periods. This shows the biological impacts of ethnic discrimination and how historical events can leave physical markers on the remains of individuals.