

Colorado

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

Tuesday 11 October 2011

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18th and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver

About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.

Prone to Crawl: Pre-bipedal Perambulation, Parenting and Parasites in Papua New Guinea

David P. Tracer, PhD

Professor of Anthropology and Health & Behavioral
Sciences, University of Colorado Denver

Will Baby Crawl? Maybe yes, maybe no, says anthropologist David Tracer, whose study of children in Papua New Guinea supports the view that milestones of child development vary with culture. The Au people of the Anguganak village (population less than 10,000) live deep in the remote lowland rainforests. David Tracer is the only researcher to have worked among the Au for the past 23 years. "Part of the motivation for this project was simply that in over two decades of working among the Au, I had never seen an infant crawl," he says. Was something wrong? No. Because unlike western kids, Au children almost uniformly passed the vast majority of tests administered to them in a vertical posture while failing a majority of tests administered in horizontal postures. Is this because they spend almost all their time in the vertical posture, and are not allowed to spend time prone on their bellies? They don't crawl, they scoot. Why, do you suppose?

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique is organized by an informal group of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as science fans from industry, government and elsewhere. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCDenver.edu

**Essential information about the topic and the event on our Web site at:
<http://CafeSciColorado.org>**