

Plan for OBL Workshop: Body Modification

Objective

The desire to modify one's body is a human trait, with a long history. We modify our bodies so that we become who we want to be and how we want to look.

Lesson Outline

Introduction

- Brief greeting and welcome to the museum. A small introduction to the museum.
- Ask the group, then explain, what is body modification and why do people modify their body.
- Quick overview of the 4 types to be discussed in the workshop.

Tattoos

- An introduction to what tattooing is, and how it is done. Discussion on ancient tattoos to establish tattooing's long history.
- Examples of tattoos in many cultures, and why those people get tattoos, what it means to them.
- Tattoo hands on objects.

Piercings

- What are piercings, and different types of piercings. Discussion on history of ancient piercings.
- Examples of piercings in many cultures, and why those people get piercings, what it means to them.
- Piercing hands on objects.

Scarification

- An introduction to what scarification is, and how it is done.
- Examples of scarification in cultures, and why those people get scars, what it means to them.
- Scarification hands on objects.

Chinese Foot Binding

- An introduction to the practice of foot binding, and how it is done. Discussion on its possible origin and why it was done, and no longer is.
- Foot binding hands on objects.

Conclusion

- Review the types of body modifications discussed. Reiterate that body modification has a long history and is practiced cross-culturally.
- Discussion on the taboo and discriminatory nature against body modification. Why is it a problem, even though it has been going on for so long?