

# Explaining Human Origins

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Argues the influence of Western folk ideas on human origin theories from the nineteenth century onwards. Wiktor Stoczkowski, a palaeo-anthropologist, argues that the theories of human origins developed by archaeologists and physical anthropologists from the early nineteenth century to the present day are structurally similar to Western folk theories, and to the speculations of earlier philosophers. Reviewing a remarkable range of thinkers writing in a variety of European languages, he makes a convincing argument for this case. Even though the book criticises the lack of development in theories of human origins, its conclusion is optimistic about the power of the scientific approach to deliver more reliable theories - but only if the influences of popular discourse on its thinking are properly identified. EAN/ISBN : 9780511060045 Publisher(s): Cambridge University Press Format: ePub/PDF Author(s): Stoczkowski, Wiktor - Turton, Mary

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