

Tekst 6

EATING PEOPLE IS WRONG

So is refusal to consider scientific evidence for cannibalism

1 Cannibalism is not just a taboo diet. In the past
generation it has also become a taboo topic. That is 4
why news of *Man Corn* by Christy Turner is already
creating outrage around the campuses and
5 laboratories of the world even before it is published
in America next month. As we report today, this
controversial anthropologist has spent the past 30
years investigating cannibalism in the American
Southwest. His book provides proof for wide-
10 spread cannibalism until 400 years ago among the
Anasazi (“Ancient Enemy”), the ancestors of the
Hopi Indians. His report shocks both conventional
wisdom and political correctness. 5

2 Conventional wisdom regards the Hopi Indians
15 of Chaco Canyon in New Mexico as a great
civilisation. Their architecture and engineering are
wonders of prehistoric America. Their peacefulness
and their society with equal rights for all have
made Chaco a Mecca for followers of the New Age,
20 seeking a spirituality outside Western civilisation.
And political correctness calls cannibalism a myth, 6
invented by the European invaders in an attempt to
justify their conquest, conversion, enslavement and
genocide.

3 25 The name “cannibal” was a Spanish libel on the
natives of the Caribbean. Modern anthropology
treats the forbidden food as 99 per cent legend,
except for survival cannibalism by castaways or
survivors of an air crash. Claims have constantly
30 been made that savages and outsiders are

cannibals.

Europeans accused Africans of cannibalism, and
Africans accused Europeans of the same thing. The
Romans said that early Christians ate human flesh,
35 and the Christians said the same of the Jews. But
the sensational travellers’ tales of cannibalism in
Victorian encyclopaedias have shrunk to a footnote
by their latest editions. *The Man-Eating Myth*, 1979,
an influential book by William Arens, argued that
40 there were no reliable, firsthand accounts of
cannibalism anywhere in the historical or
ethnographic record. Until now, that is.

Mr Turner’s findings are unusually convincing.
His study of human bones and other remains point
45 to widespread slaughter, butchery and cooking.
Heads were used as containers to boil the brains.
Myoglobin, a protein that is found only in skeletal
and heart muscle, has been identified in coprolites
(fossilised human excrement). That could only have
50 been ingested through the bowels.

Unsurprisingly, his demonstration of
cannibalism has been met with denial and hostility.
Museums refuse to display his bones. Other
academics accuse him of everything from
55 insensitivity and racialism to obsession. Truth
must matter more than fashion in anthropology.
The ghosts of the vanished Hopi deserve a cold eye,
not a blind one.

‘The Times’, November 28, 1998

■ Tekst 6 Eating people is wrong

- 1p **23** ■ How is Christy Turner's book looked upon, according to paragraph 1?
- A With appreciation, because it is based on extensive research of cannibalism.
 - B With contempt, because it does not disapprove of cannibalism under all circumstances.
 - C With disapproval, because it goes against accepted views on the occurrence of cannibalism.
 - D With suspicion, because it presents personal impressions as historical facts.

Volgens alinea 1 is kannibalisme een taboeonderwerp geworden.

- 3p **24** □ Geef aan of de onderstaande citaten uit de tekst deze bewering uit alinea 1 wel of niet ondersteunen.

1 'Conventional wisdom ... great civilisation.' (regel 14–16)

2 'And political ... a myth' (regel 21)

3 'Modern anthropology ... 99 per cent legend' (regel 26–27)

4 'Europeans accused ... same thing.' (regel 32–33)

5 'But the ... latest editions.' (regel 35–38)

Noteer het nummer van elk citaat, gevolgd door "ja" (= ondersteunt) of "nee" (= ondersteunt niet).

- 1p **25** ■ What becomes clear about the European invaders in lines 21–24 ('And political ... and genocide.')?

- A They depicted natives as cannibals as an excuse for their own way of treating them.
- B They masked their own feelings of inferiority by accusing natives of cannibalism.
- C They mistook the ancient war rituals of native Americans for cannibalism.
- D They practised cannibalism when conquering the native peoples of America.

- 1p **26** ■ How could the sentence 'Europeans accused ... same thing.' (lines 32–33) also begin?

- A But Europeans...
- B Meanwhile, Europeans...
- C Moreover, Europeans...
- D Thus Europeans...

'Mr Turner's findings are unusually convincing.' (regel 43)

- 1p **27** □ Tot welke conclusie leiden de bevindingen van Christy Turner volgens de tekst?

'Unsurprisingly, his ... and hostility.' (lines 51–52)

- 1p **28** ■ Which of the following quotations is in line with this sentence?

- A 'His report ... political correctness.' (lines 12–13)
- B 'The name ... the Caribbean.' (lines 25–26)
- C 'Claims have ... are cannibals.' (lines 29–31)
- D 'Mr Turner's ... unusually convincing.' (line 43)

- 1p **29** ■ How can this article best be characterised?

- A As a brief survey of the history of cannibalism.
- B As a comment in support of Christy Turner's book.
- C As a comparison between recent anthropological studies.
- D As a discussion of the acceptability of cannibalism.