
The title of this book indicates its scope clearly if it is understood that the term 'hermaphroditism' is used here in the general sense of intersexual disorder. This important subject is considered thoroughly in all its aspects and is clearly written and clearly illustrated throughout. The accent of the book is on clinical detail, with surgical treatment having a prominent place; cytogenetic, endocrine, and biochemical aspects are none the less dealt with appropriately as well. The only serious omission is that of transvestitism and transsexualism—a surprising omission when one considers that the authors must have much useful information to share in this field. This apart, the book is thoroughly recommended to clinicians and others interested in the field of intersexual disorders and related endocrine abnormalities.

G. J. Dewhurst


This is an expensive account of a rather inappropriately titled symposium. Only four or five papers deal with the effects of long-term drug usage, and this count depends on a generous interpretation of the word 'long'. The remaining contributions cover the classical fields and models of teratology. Many, particularly those from American contributors, have been published in more detail elsewhere. A notable exception is the contribution by R. L. Brent, and there is a valuable article on the incidence of variation and malformations in animals by A. K. Palmer. Although the dangers of speculation on the teratogenic effects of drugs are emphasized by one writer, who reminds us of their value and necessity in clinical medicine, many other authors are more self-indulgent. An article by I. D. G. Richards puts the risks in better perspective.

The volume will be of limited use to workers in the field of teratology who will already be familiar with most of the information to be found within it.

C. L. Berry


Those who work with biological populations are usually well aware of the various procedures for assessing the degree of similarity between samples, and recognize that for each method there are particular problems for which it is most relevant; for each there are drawbacks. Dr Constandse-Westermann, of the Institute of Human Biology at Utrecht, has for some time been engaged in teaching these apparently complex methods to students of medicine, biology, and anthropology. The problems of so doing, particularly when the class is non-mathematically trained, are indeed daunting. That is why she wrote this book.

In it she sets out in simple and straightforward language, amply illustrated by worked examples, the various procedures for calculating biological distance coefficients between human populations. She resists the temptations of phylogenetic tree building, discriminant analysis, cluster analysis, principal component analysis, and canonical analysis, so that apart from the setting out of the chosen methods, the text primarily covers their development, backgrounds, possibilities, and defects.