

Podcast: A genetic history of the Americas before European colonialism

Who were the first people to migrate to the Americas? When did they arrive, and how?

For centuries, those questions have been shrouded in mystery. No written records and very little archaeological evidence exists to provide clarity. In recent years, however, the examination of genetic data has revolutionized researchers' ability to find answers.

A recent family trip to the Grand Canyon furthered Chris [Hayes'] interest in talking with one of the most celebrated scholars in the field. Dr. Jennifer Raff is an anthropological geneticist and associate professor at the University of Kansas. She's also author of the New York Times best-selling book, "Origin: A Genetic History of the Americas."

Raff joins to discuss how the first people migrated to the Americas nearly 20,000 years ago, how genomes showcase the very close relatedness of humans across the globe and the impact of genetic discoveries on narratives.

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