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**Cosmetology Past and Present**

Over the years cosmetology has been a major part of the female world culture. Many women around the world go to salons and spas every day to have their make-up done, to get a facial, and for hair removal, because many women around the world have this done to them every day that cosmetology has become a very popular business. Beauty has for centuries been a major importance in societies, therefore cosmetology as a profession will always be around for centuries to come. The history of make-up can be traced back as far as ancient Egypt. Today cosmetology has become a very popular career and art form. Over time new technology has produced new ways to produce make-up, hair removal, and do facials.

Cosmetology has been around for centuries. The first cosmetologists were ancient tribal hunters and practiced cosmetology as a form of defense rather than for beauty. They smeared ash under their eyes and by doing so the glare of the sun was reduced, and by smearing animal urine on their bodies, their smell was altered. Although primitive, this eventually led to cosmetic ideas such as eye liner and perfume (Life123, 1). Cosmetic comes from the word cosmetae and was first used to describe Roman slaves whose function was to bathe men and women in perfume (Chaudhri, 164). As early as 4,000BC men and women of Ancient Egypt wore eye make-up. The eye make-up of ancient Egyptians was very elaborate and created the almond eye look which has become a modern depiction of ancient Egyptians. Their choice in colors was black and green, which was made up by taking powders they made and mixing them with water to make a paste (Egyptian makeup, 1). Ancient Egyptian make-up had many purposes; medical reasons, cosmetic, religious and magical reasons, and traditional reasons. In comparison their make-up was a part of their way of life. For medical reasons they continued to use their eye make-up to keep diseases away because; it shielded the eyes from the sun along with keeping the flies away from their eyes (Egyptian makeup, 1). As early as 1550 BC Egyptians produced cosmetics such as kohl made from galena a type of rock they would crumble up and mix with water to make a paste and lipstick (Camie Smith, Interview). Ancient Egyptians both men and women started wearing distinct eye make-up, and perfumed oils to soften their skin and to prevent burning in the sun along with damage from the sandy winds ( Egyptian makeup, 1). Ingredients like Myrrh, thyme, marjoram, chamomile, lavender, and lily, were used in perfumes to preform religious rituals and to embalm the dead. For the lips, cheeks and nails, clay called red ochre was ground and mixed with water. Henna was used to dye fingernails yellow or orange. Egyptian makeup was stored in special jars that were kept in special makeup boxes. Women would carry their makeup boxes to parties and keep them under their chairs. Although men also wore makeup, they did not carry makeup kits with them (Chaudhri, 164). Not only did the men and women wear make-up, but their gods were adorned with different types of cosmetics as well. The higher the status the more make-up and clothes they would wear (Egyptian makeup, 1). Furthermore Egyptians would freshen their breath by chewing on pellets made of ground tamarisk leaves because there is no evidence of toothbrushes or toothpaste at this time. In Egyptian culture bad breath and bad body odor were grounds for shame (Chaudhri, 165). Although Egyptians were the first to be credited for inventing make-up there are many other ancient societies that used make-up as well.

In ancient China cosmetics were extremely important, especially with royalty. Historically beautiful nails were a sign of wealth and desirability. Their hairstyles were always elaborate, and hairstyling and hair care was a true art form to the Chinese (Life123, 1). However, humans evolved, many other cultures became involved with make-up in many other ways.

During the reign of Queen Victoria make-up was discouraged as something only for actors and actresses from 1837 to 1901 (Camie Smith, Interview). Queen Victoria considered anyone who wasn’t and actor or actress that wore make-up to be taboo, but not everyone saw it her way. Though she discouraged make-up historians have found a picture of young Queen Victoria with make-up on and the picture is known as “The secret picture” and was commissioned by the young Queen in 1843 as a 24th birthday present for her beloved husband Albert. It was painted by the respected artist Franz Xaver Winterhalter (English, 1). Though she discouraged make-up I believe personally that she felt the urge to wear make-up herself to look beautiful to her peers.

In America in 1900 Annie Turnbo began selling hair treatments, including non-damaging hair straighteners, hair growers, and hair conditioners door to door. During 1905 Sarah McWilliams began to sell hair grower door to door. After she married she became known as Madam C.J. Walker and incorporated her own company in Indianapolis in 1911. Then in 1909 Eugene Schueller developed the first safe hair dye and in 1910 he named his company L’Oreal (Understanding History of Cosmetics, 1). Then in 1915 lipstick is introduced in cylindrical metal tubes. During 1922 the bobby pin was invented to manage short hair. By the 1930s in America everyone was buying make-up from all social classes and the poorer you were the more make-up you would wear to be beautiful. In 1932 Lawrence Gelb brought home a hair color product that penetrates the hair shaft and starts the company Clairol. In 1933 a new method for permanent waving, using chemicals, which doesn't require electricity or machines, is introduced. By 1950 he introduces Miss Clairol Hair color bath, a one-step hair coloring product (Understanding History of Cosmetics, 1). Cosmetology has come a long way through history and on its way it has evolved into a popular career.

Many people think cosmetology would be a unique and interesting career to go into, but it’s not as easy as just going to school for a few days and then becoming a licensed cosmetologist. Although cosmetology still deals with the skin, hair, and nails, it has grown to include many other subjects such as nail technician, make-up artist, hair stylist, wig technician, esthetician, hair removal specialists or skin care specialists (Life123, 1). Students enrolled in cosmetology courses at Jordan-Matthews, learn the art of styling, dressing, and chemically treating hair; creating artificial nails; performing proper skin care treatment; and applying make-up. They study the same curriculum that is used in community colleges and private schools, at a fraction of the cost. Students really only have to worry about buying two uniforms, shoes, and a kit with the tools that they need to execute practical performances (Braxton, 4). There are also many work activities involved like performing for or working directly with clients, caring for others, getting established and maintaining interpersonal relationships, performing general and physical decision making, solving problems, along with providing consultation and advice to others (Hairdressers, 1). Most beauty and cosmetology schools require a high school diploma or something equal to it. Most students that choose cosmetology as a career to go into are surprised by the diversity of study areas covered in the curriculum. It is a good career to go into if you’re hands on kind of person along with being interested in science (Cox, 49). Though the coursework covered in today’s cosmetology programs are significant in science and technology content (Cox, 48). A student can choose to go full or part time, but for most certifications 1500 hours are required to complete the basic cosmetology course. The reward for this career can be great once you have finished the course. People that do choose to go into cosmetology can benefit greatly from it as a career.

In a 2003 study by NACCAS found that cosmetology graduates can expect to earn anywhere from $30,000 and up depending on the amount of experience they have, the salon, clientele, and hours worked (Duffy, 1). Fifty percent of cosmetologists earn around $22,760, while ninety percent of cosmetologists earn around $41,540. As a cosmetologist one would have to be able to cut and style all types of hair along with straighten, permanent wave, and color it. A cosmetologist would also have to be knowledgeable in the field of ethics, the division of cosmetology which includes facials, make-up application, manicures, pedicures, electrolysis, waxing and massage treatments (Duffy, 1). On a typical day cosmetologists might perform certain duties such as specialization cuts, trims, and shapes hair or hair pieces, bleaches, dyes, or tints hair, combs, brushes, and sprays hair or wigs to set the style, they will also attach the wig or hair piece, massage and treat the scalp for hygienic and remedial purposes. They will also recommend hair treatments lotions and creams. As a cosmetologists becomes more experienced they can expect to earn more (cosmetology career information, 1). Cosmetology is a great career if a person is interested in hair and skin but they would also have to be interested in science and technology.

Cosmetology isn’t only a job for someone; it is also an art that uses quite a bit of technology. Cosmetology as an art requires many skills such as arm-hand steadiness, manual dexterity, and finger dexterity, oral comprehension, near vision, oral expression, originality, speech, visualization, and fluency of ideas. You also must have many active skills like active listening, service orientation, critical thinking, speaking, active judgment, decision making, social perceptiveness, along with complex problem solving, and coordination monitoring (Hairdressers, 1). Technology in cosmetics has evolved a long way since Ancient Egyptians. It has evolved from sticks to design the eyes to brushes along with many other new inventions. We now have a pressed-powder for our foundation that makes our faces look and feel light and silky made from a novel ultra-low pressure molding technology. The ultra-low molding technology named soft press molding got its name from three of its jobs; mixing the binder dispersion (water and powder), soft compression, and drying the product by using soft press molding. The powdery foundation can contain more than 30% of calcium lauroyl taurate (CaLT) without hard-caking, and the resultant powdery foundation expresses an extremely smooth sensation to the touch. Furthermore, this powdery foundation shows a natural finish (Abstracts, 133). On April 10th, 2008 VMI-Rayneri introduced a new vacuum-injection process for dispersing powder-like solids into liquids or pastes that has changed how make-up is produced dramatically. In VMI-Rayneri’s patent-pending technology the powder is injected along the centerline of the emulsifier, located at the bottom of the evacuated vessel. This technique ensures that all of the powder going through the liquid phase is dispersed evenly into its holders therefore increasing production rates for make-up and decreasing investment costs for the powder since there is much less needed to be used (Ondrey, 13). Although cosmetics has some of the same technology in it from generations of the past, it also has new technology involved in it along with technology you wouldn’t suspect to be used in it.

In cosmetic dermatology they are now using ultrasounds, the same thing used to see the fetus’ in the woman’s womb, to help lift and tighten skin tissue of the forehead, neck, and cheeks, according to new research presented at the 27th Annual Conference of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery in Grapevine, TX, on April 13, 2007 (Cosmetic Therapy Update, 401). Northwestern University in Chicago, IL, reported on a clinical study of 36 patients which showed that transcutaneous ultrasound technology can safely penetrate deeper into the skin than lasers and other light sources to produce noticeable skin tightening (Cosmetic Therapy Update, 401). Although cosmetics use some technology we wouldn’t usually think of, they do and they use technology that sounds like it came out of science fiction.

One of the first applications of the principle of selective photothermolysis proposed by Anderson and Parrish1 was the development of the ¯ashlamppulsed dye laser which is a laser used on the skin to help tighten the skin. The 577-nm wavelength was specifically picked to match a relative absorption peak for hemoglobin. With the PDL, blood vessels in the upper dermis could be selectively targeted and destroyed without significant damage to surrounding tissue. Pulsed dye lasers have been widely accepted and also improved. The use of slightly longer wavelengths such as 585 nm, 595 nm and 600 nm produces deeper tissue penetration. Other devices such as the argon, krypton and KTP (potassium-titanyl-phosphate) lasers have also been used for vascular lesions but are often associated with a higher risk of scarring (Markus, 117). A retrospective study of 245 patients with 299 hemangiomas a type of skin disease documented complications such as obstruction (28.6%), ulceration (20.4%), bleeding (14.7%), infection (4.9%) and pain (0.4%). Garden and colleagues treated 33 hemangiomas in 24 patients in a prospective study with the ashlamp-pumped pulsed dye laser and concluded that early treatment may prevent enlargement and promote involution with minimal adverse effects. They recommend therapy for patients whose hemangiomas impair function, cause disfigurement, or become ulcerated (Markus, 118). Although cosmetic technology has improved over time it is not always the best thing to use for our health.

The technology for cosmetics has come a long way, but not all of their chemicals have and some chemicals are not healthy for the human body at all. Most women love to go get their nails done at salons. They also think that they have sensitive skin even if they don’t. The reason for this is because salons use a cosmetic ingredient called parabens. It causes skin irritation because it is widely used as preservatives in foods and cosmetics as well as in drugs. They are not only rapidly absorbed, but they cut down the water needed along with the proteins used in your nails to make them healthy and vibrant (Eunyoung 131). Toxic chemicals that harm the human population and the environment are not only at salons but all around us every day.

A report released Monday December tenth of 2007 said that synthetic chemicals in shampoos, perfumes, medicines and other healthcare products that are washed down the drain are sneaking through the filters at water purification plants. The list includes phthalates, a family of some 120 chemicals linked to reproductive problems in men and wildlife, and parabens, a preservative with a suspected link to breast cancer (Scientists, 4). Some reactions even go untold or can be more serious to put people in hospitals.

Untoled reactions to cosmetics, toiletries, and topical applications are the most common reason for hospital referrals with allergic contact dermatitis. For most cases, these are only mild or transient and most reactions being irritant rather than allergic in nature. Various adverse effects may occur in the form of acute toxicity, skin irritation, eye irritation, skin sensitization and photosensitization, subchronic toxicity, mutagenicity/ genotoxicity, and phototoxicity/photoirritation. The safety assessment of a cosmetic product clearly depends upon how it is used, since it determines the amount of substance which may be ingested, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin or mucous membranes (Nigam, 10). A recent study found that an average adult uses nine cosmetic products daily. More than 25% of women use 15 or more. Cosmetics, toiletries, and skin-care products, including sunscreens, quite frequently cause adverse reactions, and are commonest single reason for hospital referrals with allergic contact dermatitis. It is estimated that 1 to 3% of the population are allergic to a cosmetic or cosmetic ingredient. In one American survey comprising 30,000 consumers, 700 reactions occurred during 1-year period (Nigam, 10). Even though some chemicals in cosmetics are harmful to humans and wildlife along with our ecosystem cosmetics is a custom for most women.

Beauty has for centuries been a major importance in societies, therefore cosmetology as a profession will always be around for centuries to come. The history of make-up can be traced back as far as ancient Egypt. Over time new technology has produced new ways to produce make-up, hair removal, and do facials. Today cosmetology has become a very popular career and art form and will continue to grow over the centuries. Over the years cosmetology has been a major part of the female world ~~and c~~ulture. Many women around the world go to salons and spas every day to have their make-up done, to have facials, and for hair removal, by doing so cosmetology has become a popular career.

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