

Lucy

There is a PBS Nova Series, In Search of Human Origins episode one that features Dr. Owen Lovejoy. If you watch the video, in particular minutes 27-30, they start by mentioning that something doesn't add up about Lucy because she has a human knee but her hip is more like that of an ape. If Lucy walked upright she had to have a human hip. Lovejoy concluded that the "perfect fit" of the hip bones was an "illusion" and decided to restore the hip to its "original" shape. In the video he cuts and grinds on the plaster bones until they fit the way he imagined them to be before the "deer" had stepped on the hip.

It's hard not to laugh out loud at his conclusion and the process of redesigning the hip. Obviously, Dr. Lovejoy wanted (hoped and wished) the ape like hip to be distinctly human. Then it was just a matter of cutting and pasting to make it so. When the "perfect fit" of a hip becomes an "illusion" and an imaginative redesign becomes the "original" shape something is amiss.

Dr Patterson in a personal letter to Luther Sunderland said, "It is easy enough to make up stories of how one form gave rise to another, and to find reasons why the stages should be favored by natural selection. But such stories are not part of science, for there is no way of putting them to the test."

Jim Levick