

the speaker and the person addressed or spoken of. What is meant in the spirit of pitying affection for a poor lame or hump-backed child or for a good-natured squinting old grandpa, might be intended to convey contempt when addressed to a young man and would be promptly resented as an insult. It is significant that the various types of abnormal forms of speech that we have reviewed are used with little or no reserve when speaking of the persons referred to or when addressing children, but are, on the whole, avoided when within ear-shot of adults so referred to. It seems further significant that the traits satirized are chiefly such as are inherent in a person, not merely acquired in the accidental course of events, whereby he is set apart by nature as falling short in some respect of the normal type of individual and is to that extent stamped as inferior. This may explain why blindness, which is more often acquired rather late in life than congenital, is not made the subject of speech-mockery. Added to this may be the feeling that blindness is too grave an affliction to be treated light-heartedly, an explanation which gains weight when the well-known sensitiveness of the Indian is considered.

Outside of the normal use of the diminutive in addressing or referring to children, the peculiar forms of speech that we have seen to obtain in Nootka are not easily paralleled in America. For diminutive verbal forms of the Nootka type Uto-Aztekan affords a close parallel. In Southern Paiute the regular diminutive suffix *-tsi-*, which is employed to form diminutive nouns and adverbs of all sorts, is also used as a verb suffix when speaking to or of a child. Cognate with this element is the diminutive suffix *-tzin(tli)* of Nahuatl. Derived from this is the verb suffix *-tzinoa*, "which," according to Rémi Siméon,¹ "serves to denote respect or love;" it is generally, like reverentials of the type already referred to, employed with reflexive prefixes. Examples given by Rémi Siméon are: *otechmo-chiuitzino in Totecuyo* "our Lord created us" (*o* preterit prefix; *tech-* first person plural objective prefix; *mo-* third person reflexive prefix; *chiui-*, from *chiua*, because of following *-li-*, verb stem "to make;" *-li* dative suffix, *mo- . . . -li* "for himself;" *-tzino* reverential, final *-a* being dropped because of preterit

¹Dictionnaire de la Langue Nahuatl ou Mexicaine, s.v. *tzinoa*.