

CORRESPONDENCE/COURRIER

A REBUTTAL TO WEIZMANN ET AL. AND ANDERSON

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Neither Weizmann et al. (1991) nor Anderson (1991) provided contradictory data to my claimed pattern of averaged racial differences. In the cited study of altruism, based largely on caring for infants, Weizmann et al. (p. 45) failed to mention that Kenyan children also averaged highest on "assault" and "reprimand", a result attributed to family structure by the authors (Whiting & Whiting, 1975). In African families, as among Afro-Americans, children are typically raised in *r*-strategy father-absent households where children are often "fostered" and reproductive effort emphasizes mating (Draper, 1989).

With respect to the discriminant validity of the race concept, Weizmann et al.'s argument (p. 45) that on many dimensions there is more variance within rather than between groups misses an essential point. A 4% group difference on one dimension when combined with a 3% group difference on another, a 2% group difference on a third, and so on, can soon lead to non-overlapping distributions using the conjoint probabilities. Failing to understand the *principle of aggregation* results in very misleading conclusions.

Weizmann et al. wrongly attributed the findings on brain size to bias (p. 46). New data from military samples confirm my ordering. One set collated by the U.S. space agency NASA using external head measurements on 24 samples totalling 57,378 male personnel (analyzed by Rushton, in press) showed that Orientals have larger cranial capacities relative to body size (1460 cm³ than Caucasoids (1446 cm³). Another set, based on a stratified random sample of 6,325 U.S. Army personnel showed that after adjusting for the effects of stature, weight, sex, and rank, Mongoloids averaged 1416, Caucasoids 1380, and Negroids 1359 cm³ (Rushton, 1991b).

Weizmann et al. avoided my itemization of sexual behaviour differences from Kinsey and elsewhere and data on the AIDS pandemic where official figures show that Africans, Afro-Americans, and Afro-Caribbeans share rates per capita much higher than white or Oriental

populations. Other sexually transmitted diseases show a similar racial pattern (Aral & Holmes, 1991). Instead of addressing these important data, Weizmann et al. used a column and a half discussing whether two of my references constituted "ethnopornography" (p. 49).

Anderson, in her diligence to attack *r*-K theory, lost track of the data needing explanation. If she doesn't like my theory it is up to her to demonstrate how an alternative fits the data better. A recent study of guppies showed that earlier maturing fish allocated a greater proportion of the body mass to reproduction and produced more and smaller offspring per brood while late maturing fish produced a smaller number of larger offspring (Reznik et al., 1990). The differences were shown to be heritable. There is every reason why similar analyses should be applied to humans. Indeed, if there were no genetically based differences in reproductive strategies among human populations, this would require a major revision to Darwinian theory.

For the record, my figures on rape for the 22 Negroid countries should have been $\bar{X} = 12.8$, $SD = 15.3$, not $\bar{X} = 15.3$, $SD = 110.8$ (Rushton, 1991a, p. 31). While few data have been collected explicitly to test *r*-K theory, note that "scavengers", to which Weizmann et al. liken me (p. 49), are highly efficient at finding all available resources. That my critics have been unable to find large data sets that contradict my theory shows that I have been equally efficient.

References

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