

through meditation. She scans the patient with hovering hands, searching for imbalances in the energy field . . . Then she sweeps her hands over the patient in order to distribute excess energy to areas of deficit." Fanatics launch into TT unasked; one man thought he was getting Last Rites when he saw hovering hands.

Likewise we learn that nursing schools now offer courses like: "Using Energy to Enhance Nursing Practice: Use of Color, Music, Touch and Movement," "Aromatherapy for Nursing Practice," and "Using the Power of Our

Thoughts for Healing." Along with this sort of female nonsense comes resentment of men in general, and nurses with chips on their shoulders. Dr. Satel tells us the British have the same problem: freshly graduated nurses who don't know how to insert a catheter but are experts on "racism" and "gender oppression."

Dr. Satel also takes a shot at affirmative action for doctors, noting the obvious perils of lowering medical school standards for non-whites. She points out that inner-city blacks often have complicated combinations of diseases that

make them tricky patients. Incompetent, affirmative-action doctors are the last thing they need—nor do the rest of us want to fall into their hands..

Where this will all end is anyone's guess. Dr. Satel assures us there are still many level-headed health workers who understand their job is to fix people, not society, but the forces set in motion in their profession are no different from those wrecking every other American institution. Until the country at large comes out of its decades-long sickness there is no reason to think the physicians will heal themselves. **Ω**

The Galton Report

A sampling of recent scientific literature.

by Glayde Whitney

Revisionism Strikes African Eve

The Out-of-Africa theory (also called the Garden of Eden—GOE—hypothesis), according to which modern man is said to have originated at one location in Africa and then spread quickly and recently to the rest of the world, is in trouble. Two well-publicized studies reported in January 2001, claim to refute the GOE theory. One was an investigation of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) taken from an Australian known as "Mungo Man" who lived approximately 60,000 years ago. His DNA was quite unlike that of Africans, leading the author to claim that Africans cannot be ancestral to all of us and that, indeed, modern man may have evolved in Australia.

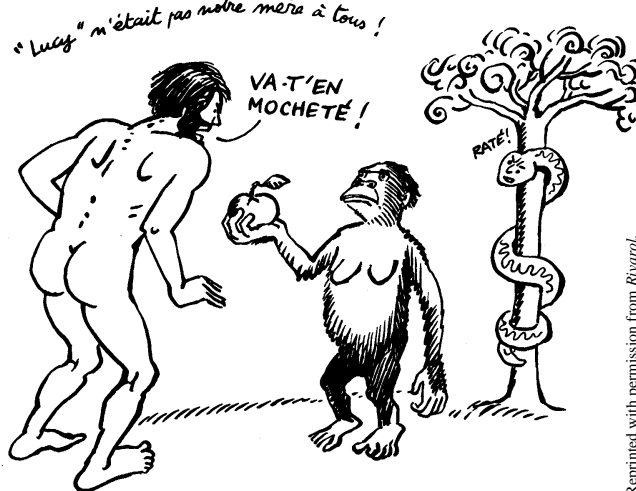
The second study, conducted by University of Michigan anthropologist Milford Wolpoff and colleagues, compared fossil bones of various ancient groups: early modern man from central Europe, pre-modern Europe man (including some Neanderthals), as well as early remains from Africa, Asia, and Australia. Prof. Wolpoff found that although the early modern European and Australian bones show some resem-

blance to African fossils they more closely resemble older remains from their own regions. These findings run contrary to the GOE theory and suggest that although there may have been some African hybridization, modern humans evolved from earlier forms that had long ago migrated out of Africa to different parts of the world.

remains from all others and that these differences persist in the various populations of modern man. GOE theory therefore cannot be true: If modern man had evolved only in Africa and then exterminated all the pre-moderns he encountered everywhere else, there would be no continuity between the regionally distinct pre-modern fossils and the modern men we find in those same regions today.

Even more important than the recent studies in casting doubt on GOE is a new review of all the literature by anthropologists Henry Harpending and Alan Rogers. They write, "Five years ago, we would have said that genetic evidence provided unambiguous support for the GOE model of human origins. Today, the case is far less clear." What has changed over the last five years is the tremendous increase in knowledge about DNA variation. The variation observed for some genes is consistent with the GOE theory but the pattern of variation for many other genes is not. For example, some assumed-to-be-neutral mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) variants are consistent with GOE, but many chromosomal DNA mutations are not. Furthermore, unlike "neutral mutants" of the kind that are thought to occur gradually and spontaneously in mtDNA, genes likely to be of survival value and thus subject to natural selection often do not support GOE.

They write that the "Origin of large-scale human differences is not understood." ("Large-scale human differ-



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"Lucy" was not the mother of us all.
Adam: "Beat it, you dog!"
Serpent: "Drat!"

Prof. Wolpoff is the main proponent of the "Multiregional Evolution Model," which holds that a much earlier primate, perhaps Homo erectus, left Africa at least two million years ago to colonize much of the old world. That pre-human species gradually evolved into modern humans in several widely scattered locations. Prof. Wolpoff argues there are regional differences (in effect, racial differences) that distinguish the earliest European, East Asian, and Australian

ences” is the PeeCee academically-acceptable euphemism for racial differences.) The problem is that many data suggest that about 15 percent of the genetic variation among humans is differences between populations. This is the value that the Marxist biologist Richard Lewontin used in the 1970s to argue that differences between the races are too small to bother with. However, about the same time, the eminent geneticist Sewall Wright stated that group differences of about 10 percent were consistent with subspecies [that is, racial] differences in animal species.

Ten to 15 percent of the genetic variation may not sound like much, but remember that there are on the order of 3 billion “base pairs” in the human DNA, and many thousands of base-pair variants. At the same time, very small changes in DNA can have profound effects on physical and mental character. For example, *just one* regulatory gene, through its effect on many other genes, is responsible for the manifold differences between men and women. The difference between “normal” and defective genes is often a difference in only one base pair. Thus the 10 percent of human genetic variation that represents racial differences can be tremendously important.

If GOE is anywhere near true, the recent expansion of modern man out of Africa, only about 100,000 years ago, does not leave enough time for the evolution of racial differences as large as 10 or 15 percent. Harpending and Rogers mention that “One way out of the problem is to posit that race differences are older than the expansion of our species.” This is reminiscent of “regional continuity,” a theory suggested by the late (and great) Carleton Coon. (Coon is not mentioned in the literature review—he is much too politically incorrect these days for respectable anthropologists to dare say anything favorable about him or his theories.)

One of Coon’s major contributions was his 1962, *The Origin of Races*. From the fossil data Coon suggested that the widespread *Homo erectus* had devel-

oped both genetically and culturally in different populations, to reach modern “sapiens” level five different times in different places. Although there was enough gene exchange to keep the races from becoming completely different species, different races crossed the gene and culture threshold to modern man at quite different times. He theorized that European Caucasoids may have become “sapient” 200,000 or more years before black Africans—which helps explain why he is in the doghouse today.

Mrs. Wolpoff (Rachel Caspari) and her husband Milford have written a book-length introduction to the data and theory of multiregional evolution, entitled *Race and Human Evolution: A Fatal Attraction*. It is a strange book, in which the Wolpoffs try to defend separate, regional evolution while genuflecting to political correctness. They do this by demonizing Carleton Coon, and emphasizing their own egalitarianism.

Their argument is that there was enough genetic isolation for groups in different regions to evolve with regional (racial) differences. However, at the same time there was enough interbreeding and gene flow throughout the entire evolving human species to ensure that each race reached sapiens level at exactly the same time! Thus all races are equally intelligent and equal in capacity for advanced civilization.

A reviewer put it this way: “Much of the authors’ effort is directed at separating their scientifically sound position from the racist legacy of earlier theories of polygenism [multiregionalism], which argued that races were genetically isolated. They also mount compelling arguments that the ‘single source of humanity’ camp has succeeded thanks to good marketing rather than hard or conclusive data.”

Mrs. Wolpoff echoes Coon in citing the physical differences between different regional populations that are found not only in modern man but in pre-modern fossils found in those same regions. For example, there are characteristic tooth shapes of East Asian populations today that are found in *Homo erectus*

fossils from China. Other traits with regional continuity include the relative thickness of the lower jaw (*torus mandibularis*), presence or absence of a bone on the back of the skull (Inca bone), the thickness of bone along the top of the head (sagittal keel), and many others.

My own view is that it is well past time for Carleton Coon to be rehabilitated. Many new data support the view that races developed differently; that is, through selection for different specializations, and at vastly different rates. For example, over 40,000 years ago a more advanced style of making stone and bone tools spread throughout Europe. This “mode 4” technology has been considered by many to be the hallmark of modern humans. Australian Aborigines never achieved mode 4.

Out-of-Africa, even if it is wrong, will not go quietly. It is too politically correct for the lefty-liberals to give up without a tantrum. Although many good scientists accept the GOE theory (including Philippe Rushton, author of *Race, Evolution, and Behavior*) it is the great love of the “race does not exist” lobby, and is the basis for the view that racial differences are too recent to be important. Indeed, Michael Shermer of *Skeptic* magazine wrote that he, like the rest of us, was “African.” Liberals will fight to the death to save any theory that gives them some claim to being “African.” [Constance Holden, “Oldest human DNA reveals Aussie oddity,” and Elizabeth Pennisi, “Skull Study Targets Africa-only origins,” both in *Science*, 12 Jan. 2001, Vol. 291, pp. 230-231. Milford Wolpoff & Rachel Caspari, *Race and Human Evolution: A Fatal Attraction*, 1997: Simon & Schuster. Henry Harpending & Alan Rogers, “Genetic Perspectives on Human Origins and Differentiation.” In *Annual Review of Genomics and Human Genetics*, Vol. 1, pp. 361-385.] **Ω**

Contributing Editor Glayde Whitney is professor in psychology, psychobiology and neuroscience at Florida State University.

Bloody Fat Tuesday

Mardi Gras celebrations have been spreading from New Orleans to many other cities. They tend to be rowdy gatherings of

young people, which often turn nasty. This year there was rioting, looting, and violence among the celebrants, some of which was captured on video and aired

on television. A reader who monitors the news, reports that in *every* instance, the cameras caught blacks attacking whites without provocation. He says he saw