

Terman, L.(1917) Feeble-minded children in the public schools of California: The menace of feeble-mindedness. *School and Society*. 5, 161-165.

The cost to the people of California of feeble-mindedness in all its aspects, while not subject to exact reckoning, must be tremendous. The cost for Massachusetts, a state whose population is about the same as that of California has been computed at more than \$7,000,000 annually.

. . . When we add to this the loss accruing from the part played by feeble-mindedness in alcoholism, pauperism, prostitution, and disease, it is reasonable to conclude that the mentally defective inhabitants of California entail a burden on the rest of the state in excess of \$5,000,000 a year. There can be no doubt that an additional institution, designed primarily for the case of the higher grade and more dangerous cases, would save to the state every year more than the entire original outlay for such an institution. (p.161)

. . . legislation is asked for the purpose of providing an additional state home. The retention in such a home for 1,000 morons during the reproductive period will prevent the birth of several thousand of their kind within the next fifty years. p. 165

Terman, L. (1922) Influence of nature and nurture upon scores. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 19, 362-369.

The mere fact that school children of certain nationality groups ordinarily test low and also come from homes where only a limited amount of English is spoken, in itself, proves nothing.

Terman,L. (1916)*The measurement of intelligence*. Boston: Houghton-Mifflin.

1. The median IQ for children of the superior social class is about 7 points above, and that of the inferior social class about 7 points below the median IQ of the average social group. . . .

2. That the children of the superior class make a better showing in the tests is probably due, for the most part, to a superiority in original endowment. This conclusion is supported by five supplementary lines of evidence:

- a) the teachers' rankings of the children according to intelligence;
 - b) the age-grade progress of the children;
 - c) the quality of the school work
 - d) the comparison of older and younger children as regards the influence of social environment; and
 - e) the study of bright and dull children in the same family.
- (pp 72-73)

The criticism has often been made that the responses to many of the tests are so much subject to the influence of school and home environment as seriously to invalidate the scale as a whole. . . . p 114

It has in fact been found wherever comparisons have been made that children of superior social status yield a higher average mental age than children of the laboring classes. . . . (cites specific data)

However, the common opinion that the child from a cultured home does better in tests solely by reason of his superior home advantages is an entirely gratuitous assumption. . . . p.115

The results of five separate and distinct lines of inquiry based on the Stanford data agree in supporting the conclusion that the children of successful and cultured parents test higher than children from wretched and ignorant homes for the simple reason that their heredity is better. p 116.

It is interesting to note that M.P. and C.P.(two boys tested with low IQ test scores) represent the level of intelligence which is very, very common among Spanish-Indian and Mexican families of the Southwest and also among negroes (sic). Their dullness seems to be racial, or at least inherent in the family stocks from which they come. The fact that one meets this type with such extraordinary frequency among Indians, Mexicans, and negroes suggests quite forcibly that the whole question of racial differences in mental traits will have to be taken up anew and by experimental methods. The writer predicts that when this is done there will be discovered enormously significant racial differences in general intelligence, differences which cannot be wiped out by any scheme of mental culture.

Children of this group should be segregated in special classes and be given instruction which is concrete and practical. They cannot master abstractions, but they can often be made efficient workers, able to look out for themselves. There is no possibility at present of convincing society that they should not be allowed to reproduce, although from a eugenic point of view they constitute a grave problem because of their unusually prolific breeding. (pp. 91-92)

Terman, L. (1930) *Genetic Studies of Genius. The promise of youth.* Vol. III. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

"Race. . . . On the other hand, we have certain small proportions of Bohemian, Armenian, Portuguese, Negro, and Indian descent for the Regular group . . .

Terman, L., & Melita Oden (1947) *Genetic Studies of Genius. The gifted child grows up.* Vol. IV. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

"The reports on racial origin indicate that, in comparison with the general populations of the cities concerned, there is about a 100 per cent excess of Jewish blood, a 25% excess of native-born parentage, a probable excess of Scottish parentage, and a deficiency of Italian, Portuguese, Mexican, and Negro ancestry. . . . The non-Caucasian representation in our gifted group would

certainly have been larger than it was but for the handicaps of language, environment, and educational opportunities." P. 15

The above is an important change of pace from earlier statements. Essentially, it is acknowledging that sample selection of gifted children was biased.

Terman, L., & Oden, M (1959) *Genetic Studies of Genius. The Gifted group at Mid-Life* Vol. V. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

On sample selection

"In grades 3 to 8, "each teacher filled out a blank which called for the name of the brightest child in the room, the second, brightest, the third brightest, and the youngest." Then a group intelligence test and promising students given the Stanford-Binet. Younger nominees were given the SB. High school students took the Terman Group Test and then the SB. p.2

". . . the majority were the offspring of intellectually superior parents. The tendency to superiority in the social and cultural background is shown in many ways. Nearly a third of the fathers as of 1922 were in professional occupations, and less than 7 per cent in semiskilled or unskilled work . . . 182 of the families contributed two or more subjects to the group." p 6

To me the above has always been central. Terman asked teachers to name the brightest children. In another article I read at CSU, he comments something like "I (Terman) was not surprised to find that virtually none of the ragamuffins of the lower classes were nominated." I could not find this article at UMass.

Terman, L. (1922) The great conspiracy or the impulse of intelligence testers psychoanalyzed and exposed by Walter Lippman. *The New Republic*, 33, 116-120.

Terman responds in parody to Lippman's six article critique of intelligence testing.

Intelligence testers have shown

- "4) that college professors are more intelligent than janitors, architects than hod-carriers, railroad presidents than switch-tenders; and (most heinous of all)
- 5) that the offspring of socially, economically, and professionally successful parents have better mental endowment, on the average than the offspring of such janitors, hod-carriers and switch-tenders. p. 116

The essential thing about a democracy is at stake. The essential thing about a democracy is not equality of opportunity, as some foolish persons think, but equality of mental endowment. . . .

For example, the innocent -minded Germans are being shamefully taken in at this very moment. Hardly had the old government of Germany crashed, when the educational authorities of the newly established republic allowed the psychologists to launch an orgy of intelligence testing in the schools. The ostensible purpose is to sift the schools for superior talent in order to give it a chance to make the most of itself, in whatever stratum of society it may be found. The psychologists pretend that they are trying to break up the old Prussian caste system. They are not. It is the Impulse Imperious. If the German people don't wake up they will soon find themselves in the grip of a super-junker caste that will out-junker anything Prussia ever turned loose." p. 117.

Article goes on, but the flavor is here.