

EUGENICS BIBLIOGRAPHY

Increasing attention is being paid to issues of human heredity as a result of the Human Genome Project (HGP) with its mandate to analyze all human DNA. The H.G.P. has kindled renewed interest in the possibility of amending our genetic legacy through preventive reproductive strategies, and perhaps eliminating certain diseases or disabilities that may be genetically linked. As a consequence, there is a renewed awareness of earlier attempts to manipulate heredity during the first quarter of this century under the aegis of the eugenics movement.

A second factor has also contributed to the resurgence of interest in eugenics. New work on the history of the Holocaust has followed the opening of previously secret archives of the Nazi era in the former East Germany and Soviet Russia. The wave of memorials marking the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps and the prosecution of Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg tribunals have also added to the interest in study of the so-called "scientific racism" that characterized the Nazi regime.

In an attempt to provide a thorough list of reference sources on the history of the eugenics movement in America, this bibliography lists many classic works from the "heyday" of eugenical thought (approximately 1900 to 1935) as well as most of the important secondary works that have appeared in the last thirty-five years.

Since the appearance of Mark Haller's *Eugenics: Hereditarian Attitudes in American Thought* in 1963, every decade since has seen at least one major book on the history of the American branch of the international eugenics movement. The most recent milestone was the 1985 publication of Daniel Kevles *In the Name of Eugenics*, which provided a timely reference text for a number of scholars who would explore eugenics in the following dozen years. Between Haller and Kevles several histories of American eugenics appeared: Donald Pickens, *Eugenics and the Progressives* (1968), Kenneth Ludermerer, *Genetics and American Society : A Historical Appraisal* (1972), and Allan Chase, *The Legacy of Malthus: The Social Costs of the New Scientific Racism* (1977).

Since Kevles, several more focused investigations have been completed, and the study of eugenics from a variety of disciplinary perspectives continues to yield new volumes every year. In the nineties alone more than ten books have been published, including a history of the eugenical sterilization movement: Phillip R. Reilly, *The Surgical Solution* (1991); a study of the linkages between the American and German eugenics movements by Stefan Kuhl, *The Nazi Connection* (1994); an investigation of the scientific and political vestiges of eugenics in America: William H. Tucker, *The Science and Politics of Racial Research* (1994); a regional history of eugenics in the American South: Edward J. Larson, *Sex, Race, and Science* (1995); a study that connects trends in evolution and eugenics to modern genetic study: Diane B. Paul, *Controlling Human Heredity* (1995); a close analysis of the making of an American film on eugenics: Martin

Pernick, *The Black Stork: Eugenics and the Death of "Defective" Babies in American Medicine and Motion Pictures Since 1915* (1996); a cultural and linguistic analysis of U.S. eugenics: Marouf A. Hasian, *The Rhetoric of Eugenics in Anglo-American Thought* (1996); a history of psychiatry and eugenics in North America: Ian Robert Dowbiggin, *Keeping America Sane: Psychiatry and Eugenics in the United States and Canada 1880-1940* (1997); a study of eugenic criminology: Nicole H. Rafter, *Creating Born Criminals: Biological Theories of Crime and Eugenics* (1997); an analysis of education and eugenics: Steven Selden, *Inheriting Shame* (New York: Teachers College Press, 1999); and a study of the eugenics movement in Vermont: Nancy L. Gallagher, *Breeding Better Vermonters* (Hanover: University Press of New England, 1999).

During this same period, several volumes have appeared that treat the eugenics movement in the international context, such as Nancy Leys Stephan's *The Hour of Eugenics: Race, Gender and Nation in Latin America* (1991); *The Wellborn Science : Eugenics in Germany, France, Brazil and Russia* by Mark Adams (1993); and Gunar Broberg and Nils Roll-Hansen's collection on *Eugenics and the Welfare State: Sterilization Policy in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland* (1996). Numerous works covering the German history of eugenics as the science of "racial hygiene" have also been published, notably *Race Hygiene and National Efficiency: The Eugenics of Wilhelm Schallmayer* by Sheila Faith Weiss(1987); Paul Weindling's *Health, Race and German Politics Between National Unification and Nazism, 1870-1945* (1989) and *The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945* (1991) by Michael Burleigh and Wolfgang Wipperman.

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