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HARVARD AND THE HOLOCAUST

BY: **A.E. SAMAAAN** ~ MARCH 2ND, 2013
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The Harvard Crimson staff recently published an article that received national attention. The article titled "Warning: Do Not Enroll" asks that conservatives not apply to Harvard if they disagree with the Progressive political leanings of the university. Some introspection is in order, as the historical record proves that this type of arrogance on the part of past Harvard elitists contributed to some of the most horrid episodes in human history. More to the point, some measure of conservatism and respect for tradition would have prevented Harvard's best from becoming the figureheads of the reviled eugenics movement. The consequences of Harvard's hubris were:

- 1.) One Harvard graduate sat in as a judge in Hitler's eugenic courts.
- 2.) A Harvard eugenicist was part of the administration at Buchenwald.
- 3.) Harvard graduates helped author significant portions of the infamous Nuremberg Laws.
- 4.) Harvard graduates were at the forefront of the legislation that kept so many Jewish refugees from reaching the safety of U.S. shores.
- 5.) Harvard graduates provided highly publicized support for Hitler's racial policies.

LETTERHEAD OF THE I.F.E.O. EVIDENCING THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN HARVARD'S DAVENPORT, LEONARD DARWIN, AND HITLER'S SCIENTISTS, ALFRED FLOETZ AND ERNST RÜDIN. (PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN "FROM A 'RACE OF MASTERS' TO A 'MASTER RACE'" BY PERMISSION OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPT. AT TRUMAN UNIV.)

Harvard graduates and professors were not solely responsible for the eugenic movement, but they were the undisputed leaders of the movement. They achieved these leadership positions by leveraging their Harvard credentials, and in turn, Hitler's scientists sought them out precisely so National Socialism could claim to have the approval of this highly touted university.

Incidentally, these Harvard elitists were cocksure of their "scientific" views, and they vocally proclaimed conservative and traditional values as their biggest political obstacle. Their eugenic leadership had a pronounced disdain for *laissez-faire* economics and took every opportunity to question the wisdom of the basic civil rights inherent to the nation's founding. We can say this with certainty because these pre-WWII elitists were as arrogant as their German counterparts, documenting their every scientific and political aspiration. Thus, they left behind a substantial amount of evidence which explains exactly what their political leanings were.

Without exception, these eugenicists desired a centrally planned society, where a scientific caste was entrusted with the political power to decide who lived, who died, who was segregated, and who was allowed to contribute to society. They were keenly aware that "breeding" for better humans inescapably meant imbuing the government with the power a horse breeder has over his livestock. This was elitism at its worst, as no eugenic goals could be accomplished without 'total' control over all aspects of society. In this respect, they saw eye to eye with Hitler in desiring a massive and intrusive centrally planned government where everything is nationalized and socialized to create the "total state". Of note was the fact that one of the shared goals of the Progressive-minded eugenicists was a 'nationalized' medicine, as controlling medicine and science was a necessary

precursor to creating a “master race”.

One simply has to go down the list of presidents for the American Eugenic Society, the Human Betterment Foundation, the Pioneer Fund, and the Immigration Restriction League to see how they are, almost without exception, all headed up by Ivy Leaguers. Harvard contributed more than the other Ivy League universities combined to these institutions. Extrapolating precisely what this list of Harvard graduates and professors represents will reveal just how instrumental were to the horrific eugenic policies that resulted in The Holocaust:

- Charles Benedict Davenport - (eugenic kingpin)
- Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. - (1927 Buck v. Bell)
- Lothrop Stoddard - (Nazi eugenic courts)
- Earnest A. Hooton – Harvard Professor
- Lawrence Lowell – President of Harvard (Immigration Restriction League)
- Prescott Hall (Immigration Restriction League)
- Wickliffe Draper – (Founder Pioneer Fund)
- Clarence Cook Little – (American Eugenics Society President)
- Harry L. Shapiro – (American Eugenics Society President)
- Dr. Katzen-Ellenbogen – (Buchenwald)
- Robert DeCoursey Ward – (Immigration Restriction League)
- E.L. Marks - (Harvard zoology & eugenics)
- Herbert Spencer Jennings
- Robert M. Yerkes - (Eugenics intelligence testing)
- Dudley Sargent - (eugenic infanticide)
- Ernst Hanfstaengl – (Hitler’s Foreign Minister)
- Dr. Clarence Gordon Campbell – (President of the American Eugenics Research Association)

Charles B. Davenport, the undisputed leader of the eugenics movement in the United States attended Harvard University, earning a PhD in biology in 1892, winning the Thayer Scholarship in 1890 and 1891. Davenport was also an instructor at Harvard from 1891 until 1899. Davenport was appointed director of the Sciences Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, New York, in the spring of 1898. Cold Spring Harbor became the epicenter of American eugenics. Alan G. Cock and Donald R. Forsdyke, in their 2008 book “Treasure Your Exceptions: The Science and Life of William Bateson,” document that Andrew Carnegie had been inspired by Herbert Spencer’s interest of acquired characters and written to Francis Darwin, the

son of the famous biologist, indicating his interest in financially supporting such an effort. (Pg. 225) The Carnegie Institution was subsequently founded in 1902, and Charles Davenport began a campaigning for the Carnegie Institute to invest funds for a department of genetics. In 1904, the Carnegie Institution established the Station for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, making Davenport its director.

Allan Chase, author of the 1975 book titled, “The Legacy of Malthus: The Social Costs of the New Scientific Racism,” documents how The Cold Spring Harbor eugenics facility was established upon Davenport’s Harvard credentials and Francis Galton’s fame. (Pg. 118, “Legacy of Malthus”) An Oct. 26, 1910 letter has Davenport crediting Galton: “My dear Galton: So you see the seed sown by you is still sprouting in distant countries.” (Eugenics Records Office, #2094)

It is from Cold Spring Harbor that the collaboration with the German scientists flourished and thrived. Davenport collaborated with Eugene Fischer on studies documenting the alleged inferiority of Africans of mixed ethnicity. In 1926, Wickliffe Draper, the eugenic-minded millionaire from the Proctor & Gamble fortune and a product of Harvard education gave the Carnegie Institution a donation so the “problem of race mixing” could be studied. Davenport headed a team to conduct an 8000-page survey of the racially-mixed Jamaican population. Eugene Fischer formalized this work by publishing in 1913 as “The Rehoboth Bastards and the Problem of Miscegenation among Humans”. In the years of 1937-1938, Fischer analyzed 600 children descending from French-African soldiers during World War I. All of these children were later subjected to National Socialism’s eugenic sterilization policies.

These professional relationships were formalized into one institution. Davenport founded the International Federation of Eugenics Organizations (IFEEO) in 1925 and became its first president, with Eugene Fischer as chairman of the Commission on Bastardization and Miscegenation (1927) and its second president. Leonard Darwin, the other son of the famous biologist would serve as president of the IFEEO as well. The IFEEO was instrumental in creating Hitler’s eugenic state. The internal correspondence of the IFEEO, namely that between Charles Davenport and Leonard Darwin illustrates how the “Model Eugenic Laws” which were drafted by the members of the IFEEO

ultimately were adopted in order to draft the infamous Nuremberg racial laws. Many key passages of the Nuremberg laws were a verbatim translation of this "Model Eugenic Law", written by Davenport's protégé, Harry Laughlin. These legislative recommendations had been tempered and refined by testing them in the courts of 30 States and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dear Major Darwin: --- I am arranging to have two copies of the sterilization book sent to you. I gathered from contact with geneticists and eugenicists in Austria and Germany that so far from eugenics not being recognized by scientific societies that the German Government is about the only one that has asked and secured the cooperation of leading scientific men (certainly members of leading scientific societies) to cooperate with the Government by constituting a committee to which should be referred all legislation of eugenical import. Apart from the international society of Dr. Alfred Ploetz in Munich, the liveliest society dealing with eugenical matters is the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Vererbungswissenschaft* of which Dr. H. Hachtshem, Landwitach, Hochschule zu Berlin, Invalidenstrasse 42, Berlin, H.4, is secretary. (Pg. 575, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'", emphasis mine)

In short, Hitler was handed proven and tested legislation as necessary to create the eugenic state that was National Socialism. This is how Hitler's regime was able to pass the thousands of laws within months of amassing power; an accomplishment historians are typically awed by. The photo illustration at the beginning of this document shows Dr. Alfred Ploetz as part of the leadership of the IFEO along with Davenport and Darwin. In 1933, Reich Interior Minister Wilhelm Frick established an "expert advisory committee for population and racial policy," which included Ploetz, Fritz Lenz, and Ernst Rüdin. This expert advisory committee had the task of drafting the infamous Nuremberg laws. This relationship with the American and British members of the IFEO endured into the late 1930's, until it became illegal to associate with Germany at the outbreak of WWII.

In fact, it is impossible to write the history of eugenics without continually stumbling upon the work of Harvard graduates and professors. Without Harvard's Ivy League prestige, the eugenics movement in the United States would likely not have the impetus or reputation it enjoyed. A prime example of Harvard credentials being leveraged is the passing of the 1924

Immigration Restriction Act. The Act is of historical importance as it was the main tool which eugenic-minded racists kept so many Jewish refugees from reaching U.S. shores. Harvard credentials were leveraged to oversell the validity of the now reviled science of eugenics which the law was based upon.

The 1924 Act was repealed in 1952, and it is interesting to see the Congressional report directly cite the undue influence of these scientists as the justification given for the racially skewed law. The resulting report is titled, "Hearings before the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization," documented the hearings held between September 30 and October 29, 1952. The report recalls precisely how influential the Immigration Restriction League, a creation of Harvard graduates, actually was in the passing of the 1924 Act.

In 1894, Davenport's classmate at Harvard, Prescott Hall, and Robert deCourcy Ward, a Harvard professor, founded the Immigration Restriction League. The Immigration Restriction League was created by members of the Harvard class of 1889. Allan Chase documents that the membership was made up of Ivy League high-society, namely members the exclusive Boone and Crocket Club of New York, whose president was fellow eugenicist and Harvard graduate, Theodore Roosevelt. The famous racialist authors, Yale's Madison Grant and Harvard's Lothrop Stoddard were members. The League never had more than 30 members at a time, and its membership was a close-knit group from New York high-society with racial qualifications necessary for inclusion.

According to the U.S. Department of State, "the most basic purpose of the 1924 Immigration Act was to preserve the ideal of American homogeneity." The definition of "American homogeneity" was explicitly eugenic, as the experts used by the House Committee in order to arrive at the definition were from Davenport's Eugenics Record Office in Cold Spring Harbor, namely Mr. Harry H. Laughlin.

Throughout WWII Secretary of State Cordell Hull used the 1924 act to repeatedly and systematically deny Jewish refugees asylum. All of those heart breaking stories of boatloads of victims being turned away are in truth the stories of the 1924 Act being utilized to refuse passage. All of this came to a head when on January 16, 1944, the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and one of his deputies, Randolph Paul, personally visited the

President Franklin D. Roosevelt in order to coerce him to finally act. The report Morgenthau and Paul delivered was titled, "Report to the Secretary on the Acquiescence of this Government in the Murder of the Jews." The Jewish Virtual Library website by the American-Israeli Cooperative has a copy of the report:

I am convinced on the basis of the information which is available to me that certain officials in our State Department, which – have been guilty not only of gross procrastination and willful failure to act, but even of willful attempts to prevent action from being taken to rescue Jews from Hitler. (Pg. 36, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'")

The illustrious Harvard graduate, Lothrop Stoddard, was not only instrumental in passing the 1924 Immigration Restriction Act, but also used his reputation to whitewash Hitler's eugenic policies. The "Genetic Health Courts" created by the 1933 Nuremberg law consisted of a judge, a medical officer, and medical practitioner, much in the same way in which Harry H. Laughlin's "Model Eugenic Law" recommended, and in the same way which the U.S. Supreme Court found to be sufficiently observant of "due process" in the 1927 case of *Buck v. Bell*. The *Buck v. Bell* case was one of Harry H. Laughlin's "test cases". The *Buck v. Bell* opinion incidentally was written by another eugenic-minded Harvard graduate, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., where he infamously proclaimed that "three generations of imbeciles was enough". The Justice was referring to the poor whites and blacks of the American South; a view which was based on expert testimony provided by Davenport's Cold Spring Harbor staff.

Hitler's version of these eugenic courts were given a veil of legitimacy when famous individuals such as Lothrop Stoddard reported back to the world his participation in the courts and his approbation of the system. Lothrop Stoddard is an indispensable figure in the effort to understand the nature of National Socialism and eugenics. Stoddard received a Ph.D. in History from Harvard University in 1914. Stoddard is mostly remembered for his book, "The Rising Tide of Color against White World-Supremacy" in 1920. Margaret Sanger partnered with him the following year to create the American Birth Control League, the forerunner to International Planned Parenthood.

As an American journalist, author, and founding member of a prestigious reproductive rights

organization, Stoddard was given unimpeded access into Adolf Hitler's "racial state." Stoddard's racist books earned Stoddard notoriety around the world, and Hitler deeply appreciated the propaganda value of having a Harvard educated reporter write a piece about National Socialism's eugenic legislation. Stoddard's tour of Hitler's Germany resulted in his 1940 publication of the book "Into the Darkness." The extent and the depth of the access Lothrop Stoddard enjoyed is probably best described by Theodore J. O'Keefe's review of Stoddard's book. Theodore J. O'Keefe is book editor for the Institute for Historical Review, and an associate editor of the IHR's Journal of Historical Review. O'Keefe's review is titled "Veteran American Journalist Provides Valuable Inside Look at Third Reich Germany":

He was able not merely to get access to Joseph Goebbels, Heinrich Himmler, Robert Ley, Wilhelm Frick, Walter Darré, Gertrud Scholz-Klink and many other leaders ---- Stoddard then went off to observe what the Nazis were doing ---- in the eugenics court. (Before visiting the last, he talked with such figures of the Reich's racial and genetics programs as Eugen Fischer, Fritz Lenz, and Hans F. K. Günther.)

Stoddard's participation in the sessions of the Upper Court for Hereditary Health in Berlin-Charlottenburg is also documented by Stefan Kühl, author of the book, "The Nazi Connection." Note Stoddard's allegedly "scientific" thoughts:

At the Hereditary Health Supreme Court in Charlottenburg, Berlin, he joined two regular Nazi judges, a psychopathologist, and a criminal psychologist. Stoddard reported on four cases that he reviewed in order to illustrate the urgency of sterilizations:

- ➔ An "apelike" man with a receding forehead - who had a history of homosexuality and was married to a "Jewess" by whom he had three "ne'er-do-well" children.
- ➔ An obvious manic-depressive, of whom Stoddard wrote that "there was no doubt that he should be sterilized."
- ➔ An eighteen-year-old deaf-mute girl with several "unfortunate" hereditary factors in her family.
- ➔ A seventeen-year-old mentally retarded girl employed as a helper in an inexpensive restaurant. (Pgs. 62-63, "Nazi Connection")

Historians must also note that Davenport, Stoddard, and company had taken up the cause of eugenics much prior to Adolf Hitler. Going back to Eugene Fischer, the man who collaborated with Davenport in his study of blacks of mixed ethnicity, we see precisely what the relationship between eugenics and Hitler truly was. Eugenics was an American and British export to Germany, and not the other way around. These American, British, and German eugenicists educated Hitler on the creation of a “master race”. More poignantly, Fischer was one of the authors of the eugenics textbook that Hitler was handed while he was writing and researching “Mein Kampf”.

Hitler would describe his spell in prison as a “free education at the state’s expense.” J.F. Lehmann, Hitler’s publisher, financier, and sympathizer brought the book titled “*Grundriss der Menschlichen Erblchkeitslehre und Rassenhygiene*,” or in English the “Principles of Human Heredity and Racial Hygiene” which had been written in conjunction by Eugene Fischer, Fritz Lenz and Erwin Baur. The book was first published by J.F. Lehmann in 1923, and it is quite literally the “scientific” blueprint for Hitler’s racial policies. The book has come to be known by historians as the “Baur-Fischer-Lenz” book. Hitler is widely quoted by historians as stating that he had “studied with great interest the laws of several American states concerning prevention of reproduction by people whose progeny would, in all probability, be of no value or be injurious to the racial stock.” The “Baur-Fischer-Lenz” book was the primary source of that study, as well as one of the foundations for the Nuremberg Laws.

Robert Proctor, author of the 2001 book “The Nazi War on Cancer” explains that “racial hygiene”, the term some Germans used for “eugenics”, was the creation of medical science and not the Nazis:

One often hears that National Socialists distorted science, that doctors perhaps cooperated more with the Nazi regime than they should have, but that by 1933, as one émigré said, it was too late, and scientists had no alternative but to cooperate or flee. There is certainly some truth in this, but **I think it misses the more important point that medical scientists were the ones who invented racial hygiene in the first place.** (Pg. 27, “When Medicine Went Mad” – Pg. 58 “From a ‘Race of Masters’ to a ‘Master Race’”, emphasis mine)

The “Baur-Fischer-Lenz” book was a

compendium of the eugenic views of the IFEO membership, which forwarded the laughable notion that Henry Ford was an expert on the Jewish psyche. Stefan Kühl documents how the participation and acceptance into the IFEO was subsequently used by German eugenicists to justify the Third Reich’s eugenic policies:

In the summer of 1934, one and a half years after the Nazis came to power in Germany, the International Federation of Eugenic Organizations, meeting in Zurich, passed a resolution to which Nazi propaganda frequently referred in order to illustrate the international acceptance of their race policies. In this unanimously passed resolution, sent to the prime ministers of all the major Western powers, the IFEO stated that, despite all differences in political and social outlooks, the organization was “united by the deep conviction that eugenic research and practice is of the highest and most urgent importance for the existence of all civilized countries.” It recommended that all governments “make themselves acquainted with the problems of heredity, population studies, and eugenics.” It stated that eugenic principles should be adopted as state policies “for the good of their nations . . . with suitable regional modifications. German racial hygienists and Nazi race politicians viewed this resolution as confirmation of German and American dominance in the eugenics movement and as international approval of the 1933 German sterilization law. (Pgs. 26-27, “The Nazi Connection” – Pg. 50, “From a ‘Race of Masters’ to a ‘Master Race’”)

Historically speaking, figureheads like Davenport and Stoddard were instrumental in dismissing the criticism of Hitler’s policies abroad and insuring that The Holocaust remained a debated “rumor” until American forces liberated the death camps.

There is also a historically important observation to be made. By the time the IFEO was created modern genetics had disproven the claims of the eugenicists. The Hardy-Weinberg Principle had disproven the claim that eugenic sterilization or euthanasia could alter the course of human evolution by means of artificial eugenic selection. Mendel’s work had been rediscovered, and had debunked the simplistic assumptions eugenicists had made about the Theory of Evolution. This is where the politics inside the medical and scientific profession illustrate how Harvard’s

reputation was used to keep opposing views submerged by leveraging its Ivy League prestige.

The best example of this would have to be the disease of “pellagra”. Understanding the politics within the history of “pellagra” is comprehending how arrogance and elitism directly caused the deaths of thousands in the United States. Harvard’s Davenport literally used his reputation to squash the cures and remedies that had been found by lesser known scientists, and did so in order to make sure no challenges to the science of eugenics emerged from under him. Davenport had reason to fear the findings of the lesser-known scientists. “Pellagra” was touted as a “hereditary” defect by Davenport, and as proof that improving education and environment would not alleviate the social problems eugenicists like him claimed were the result of poor “breeding stocks”.

These lesser-known scientists had proven the opposite of Davenport’s eugenic claims. They proved through scientific experimentation that “pellagra” was nothing more than the consequences of poverty. However, they were up against the person literally at the top of the scientific community. Davenport was president or vice president of ten of the 64 societies in which he was a member and was on the editorial boards of eight scientific journals. From 1900 until his death in 1944, Davenport was one of the best known and most influential biological scientists in the world.

Allan Chase documents this episode in medical history. In 1902, two previously unknown Americans, Charles Wardel Stiles and Irving C. Norwood, combined their talents to deliver a body blow to Davenport’s claims. It is interesting to see that historians of the “pellagra” fiasco recognize that it was Stiles’ conservative and traditional values that allowed him to understand the real causes of the disease:

As the child of a family that took seriously the same Christian ethics despised by people like Madison Grant, Stiles was impressed as much by the social as by the medical challenges of hookworm disease. (Pgs. 193-194, “The Legacy of Malthus” – Pg. 612, “From a ‘Race of Masters’ to a ‘Master Race’”)

Stiles would prove that much of the laziness eugenicists attributed to poor Southern whites and blacks was the proximate cause of hookworm invading the body and causing a thinning of the blood. The thinned blood, in turn, provided poor nourishment for the brain and the muscles. According to Chase, Stiles

was ignored and shunned until December 1902, when Stiles presented a paper on hookworm disease at the Pan-American Sanitary Conference in Washington, D.C. The reporter that covered the conference for “The New York Sun” was Irving C. Norwood. Allan Chase quotes Stiles’ recollection of Norwood’s article:

... reported the address with the headline that the “**Germ of Laziness**” had been discovered. This press story was published throughout the world, causing amusement in some circles and indignation in some quarters. My interpretation is that this newspaper reporter contributed an exceedingly valuable piece of work in disseminating knowledge concerning hookworm disease. The “**Germ of Laziness**” became common information. It would have taken scientific authors years of hard work to direct as much attention to this subject as Mr. Norwood did through his use of the expression “**Germ of Laziness**”. (Pgs. 197-198, “Legacy of Malthus”, emphasis mine)

Stiles was being modest or diplomatic. In hindsight, the reason he had such an uphill battle in changing opinions was because he was unknown in the scientific community, and to make matters worse, he was challenging the *a priori* notions of the Ivy League scientific elite, namely that of Harvard’s Davenport.

American eugenicists also practiced their eugenic segregation and sterilization “experiments” within the United States. Again, Harvard was at the forefront of this effort. Journalist Welling Savo wrote the bombshell of an article titled “The Master Race” in the December 2002 edition of “Boston Magazine”. In it he tells the story of Shutesbury, a town just outside of Boston that was one of the small rural towns targeted by eugenicists in their nation-wide sterilization project. The project was headed up by Leon Whitney, Davenport’s eugenic associate at the IFEO and direct descendant of the famous inventor of the cotton gin:

Harvard was a brain trust of eugenic thought. In 1926, at least nine members of the Eugenics Society’s advisory council were also on the Harvard faculty, and many more were affiliated with Harvard as students and researchers. The society’s vice president, Charles Davenport, was a Harvard-trained biologist who also founded the Eugenics Records Office, which kept tabs on people’s genetic backgrounds. Like Hooton, Davenport believed that increased charity, philanthropy, and medical advances had interfered with the natural survival of the fittest. (Pg. 580, “From a ‘Race of Masters’”)

The 2002 "Boston Magazine" article goes on to describe how the IFEO's Whitney engaged in sterilization campaigns, targeting rural towns like Shutesbury. All in all, over 80,000 Americans were subjected to sterilization against their will and often without their knowledge. Stephen Buckley of the St. Petersburg Times interviewed WWII veteran Raymond Hudlow for a November 11, 2001 article. Raymond Hudlow had been one of more than 8,000 individuals who were forcibly sterilized by the Commonwealth of Virginia as a result of the eugenic legislation adopted by that state. These eugenic sterilization campaigns targeted those minorities, those rural farm boys, and those recently arrived immigrants which we now identify as the "Greatest Generation".

It is through American eugenic sterilization campaigns that the story now turns to the Harvard lecturer that became part of the administration at Buchenwald. Edwin Black, author of the famous book "The War against the Weak" wrote a complimentary article for his book titled, "The Story of the New Jersey Doctor Who Helped Kill Prisoners at Buchenwald in the Name of Eugenics." In it, Black tells the story of Dr. Edwin Katzen-Ellenbogen. In 1913, Katzen-Ellenbogen became charter member #14 of the Eugenics Research Association at Davenport's Cold Spring Harbor. He had been the chief eugenicist of New Jersey and scientific director of the State Village for Epileptics at Skillman, New Jersey under governor Woodrow Wilson. Katzen-Ellenbogen drafted New Jersey's law to forcibly sterilize epileptics and "defectives", with the definition of "defective" being explicitly eugenic in scope.

Dr. Katzen-Ellenbogen took his eugenic knowledge to Hitler's Germany in order to practice his ideology. On April 11, 1945, the American Third Army liberated the Buchenwald concentration camp near Weimar, Germany. Young American soldiers came face to face with Hitler's atrocities for the first time, and thereafter, a ghastly realism came to replace what had once been the topic of scant reports and rumors. What American troops found at Buchenwald was more than just murder. Buchenwald was the camp where human skin was harvested to make lampshades, gloves and book covers by its sadistic administrators. Edwin Black documents how eugenic policies were at the center of many of the activities at Buchenwald:

Eugenics was always an undercurrent at

Buchenwald. One block was known as the *Ahnenforschung* barrack, or ancestral research barrack. It was worked by a small detachment known as *Kommando 22a*, mainly Czech prisoners, researching and assembling family trees of SS officers. SS officers were required to document pure Aryan heredity. ---- As a skilled and doctrinaire eugenicist, Katzen-Ellenbogen was assigned to perform eugenic examinations of Polish prisoners, seeking those fit for Germanization. (Edwin Black, "The Story of the New Jersey Doctor")

Questions improperly answered linger in the public conscience. We still persist in asking how Germans, the most educated and cultured people of the time could be enlisted in such a horrific cause. Part of this important question can be answered by closely inspecting the political aspirations and *modus operandi* of eugenicists outside of Hitler's Germany. Holocaust historians write about the "irrationality of evil", alluding to Hitler's mob violence, and too often overlook the "rationality of evil". The truth is that the way to enlist a highly cultured and educated people in a campaign of murder is to appeal to their vanity and elitism through propaganda and political diatribes. Hitler's "willing executioners" operated in a rational and systematic manner. They employed the latest technology and their industrial might to murder in the many millions. The truth is that mob violence only gets you so far. While Hitler's Brown Shirts murdered in the thousands, his scientists and engineers murdered in the millions.

Progressive-minded historians typically react to these damning facts by claiming that eugenics had a broad political appeal. This is a farce. We know precisely who the men were behind this international eugenics movement because they were as meticulous in record keeping as their German counterparts. Their political preferences are a matter of documented historical fact. More to the point, these Progressive-minded eugenicists knew what stood in their way, and they were very explicit in targeting traditional morality and conservative legislative traditions. They explicitly set out to destroy not just the Hippocratic Oath, but to overturn the humanistic tradition in German medicine established by men like Rudolf Virchow and Alexander Von Humboldt. Of note is that these "scientists" spent as much time writing "Model Eugenic Laws" as they did in the laboratory conducting actual science. Theirs was an explicitly political revolution at odds with the

established moral order.

The overlapping political agendas by themselves evidence the political taint of the eugenics movement. Amongst the leadership of the British and American eugenic societies, namely the IFEO are the founding members of the Sierra Club, the Save the Redwoods Foundation, International Planned Parenthood, and the heads of the London School of Economics which spearheaded British Fabian Socialism.

Case in point, one of the most recognizable members of the international eugenics movement was the Progressive economist, John Maynard Keynes. Keynes was the director of the British Eugenics Society between 1937 and 1944, and vice president in 1937. The fact that John Maynard Keynes was devoted to the science of eugenics should not surprise anyone. Eugenics is how collectivist and Progressive states have gotten rid of “excess population” throughout history. This was the case for eugenic utopias both fictional and real, thus British Fabian Socialists such as H.G. Wells, Sydney Webb, and George Bernard Shaw were the champions of the cause in the U.K.

This was certainly the case in Hitler’s “eugenic utopia”. This was the purpose of the T4 Euthanasia Program, which murdered half a million Germans of otherwise “Aryan” ethnicity, as the Nuremberg eugenic laws labeled them as “useless eaters” or “life unworthy of living”:

As Hermann Hebestreit of the German Labor Front put the matter, the aim was to reduce the difference between the age of retirement and the age of death – ideally zero. Werner Bockhacker, chief of the DAF’s health office, put forward pretty much the same idea – as did Hellmut Haubold, who characterized the elderly as people “no longer useful to the community.” In the idealized Nazi scheme of things, workers would work long and hard and then die – saving for the *Volksgemeinschaft* the financial burdens of the elderly and “unproductive” infirm. (Pg. 119, “Nazi War on Cancer” – Pg. 147, “From a ‘Race of Masters’ to a ‘Master Race’”)

Individual life was subservient to collectivized priorities, and anyone who was identified as a danger to the “master race’s” gene pool was systematically eradicated. The right to life became a meaningless concept in the highly collectivized National Socialist state. No individual could be allowed to decide his fate by exerting their constitutional rights. Hitler’s

speeches evidence the disdain he had for “individual rights”, and his demand that all be sacrifice for the social body:

The right of personal freedom recedes before the duty to preserve the race. There must be no half measures. It is a half measure to let incurably sick people steadily contaminate the remaining healthy ones. This is in keeping with the humanitarianism which, to avoid hurting one individual, lets a hundred others perish. If necessary, the incurably sick will be pitilessly segregated—a barbaric measure for the unfortunate who is struck by it, but a blessing for his fellow men and posterity. (Adolf Hitler, 1923 – Pg. 90, “From a ‘Race of Masters’ to a ‘Master Race’”)

These were hardly the passing notions of a madman; they were the guiding principles of the eugenic regime obsessed with controlling all aspects of their “total state”. Let us not forget what Himmler’s proud SS officer, *Untersturmführer* Hans Stark, the head of the admissions detail at Auschwitz concentration camp, had as a motto hanging in his office: “Compassion is weakness.” This motto was the ethos ingrained in all of the Hitler Youth, the SS, and all concentration camp deputies in order to insure that lingering Christian morality did not impede with the regime’s goals. This is also the reason Hitler silenced the clergy in Germany.

Utopias are fragile things, and they are inspired by a desire for “statist” government solutions. Progressives desire the illusory “stasis” of those “socialist utopias” that H.G. Wells frequently wrote about. “Stasis” and “total” control was an attractive political notion following the “boom and bust” cycle that led to the Great Depression. These ideologies profess the “redistribution of wealth”, and thus a population that grows uncontrollably threatens to sabotage their redistribution pyramid scheme. “Excess population” becomes a palpable obstacle for Progressive and socialist governments during economic depressions. Believing in “growing wealth” is simply out of the question for these Progressives, as this would qualify them as “Capitalists” and cause them to be shunned by their friends, namely the Harvard Crimson.

These “merchants” of utopian ideas, these elitist intellectuals, were eager to share all of the advances made in eugenics within the United States and Britain that the libertarian constitutions in their own countries otherwise prevented. Leon Whitney, for

example, had the goal of sterilizing 10% of the American population, but cited constitutional rights and the Catholic Church as the obstacles to his eugenic goals. This is how Germany became the proving ground, the blank slate, for all the eugenic goals that could or would not be adopted by the constitutional governments of the United States or Britain. This is what drove the American eugenicists, Joseph DeJarnette, to utter that now infamous comment to the Richmond Times-Dispatch about the strides that Hitler's Germany was making with eugenics: **"The Germans are beating us at our own game."**

Hitler's propaganda ministry, on the other hand, was quite delighted to make sure that credit was given where credit was due. Hitler's government lavished praise on Harry Laughlin by giving him an honorary degree from Heidelberg University in 1936 on the anniversary of the purge of Jewish professors from German academia.

1936 also saw the publishing of the book by Heinrich Krieger *"Das Rassenrecht in Den Vereinigten Staaten"*. The title literally translates to "The Race Law in the United States." The book provided Hitler's government a propaganda goldmine. Stefan Kühl quotes the newspaper *"Grossdeutscher Pressedienst"*:

[F]or us Germans it is especially important to know and to see how one of the biggest states in the world with Nordic stock already has race legislation which is quite comparable to that of the German Reich. (Pg. 99, "The Nazi Connection" - Pg. 103, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'")

In July 1937 the Council of Foreign Relations reviewed Heinrich Krieger's 1936 book in "Foreign Affairs". Catching the attention of "Foreign Affairs" was no small accomplishment. Since its founding in 1922, "Foreign Affairs" has been the leading forum for serious discussion of American foreign policy:

The Nazis point to American racial discrimination in support of their laws against ethnic minorities. The present work is a description of the legal disabilities enforced against Negroes and Indians in the United States. (Pg. 104, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'")

The more Hitler's propaganda machine celebrated the collaboration with the IFEO, the more the relationship between the American and German eugenic elite became impossible to ignore. The article

titled "Praise for Nazis" in the September 9th, 1935 edition of TIME documents the 1935 World Population Congress in Berlin. Dr. Clarence Gordon Campbell, president of the American Eugenics Research Association, a Harvard Medical School graduate, and one of Margaret Sanger's partners, attended along with fellow Harvard alumni Wickliffe Draper.

Socialite Dr. Campbell's boldest dicta: "The difference between the Jew and the Aryan is as insurmountable as that between black and white. . . . Germany has set a pattern which other nations must follow." (Pg. 84, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'")

TIME Magazine quotes Dr. Campbell's toast at the closing Congress banquet: **"To that great leader, Adolf Hitler!"** The mounting news must have set off fires inside both the Rockefeller and Carnegie foundations, as both began to distance themselves from the Cold Spring Harbor institution they had generously funded from its onset. The Carnegie institution created a committee to dissect the work done at Cold Spring Harbor. The resulting report would be published as the 1935 book "Eugenical Sterilisation, a Reorientation of the Problem." The book became known as one of the most sophisticated and comprehensive rebuttals of the claims made by the proponents of eugenics. Most poignantly, the committee treated the American, British, and German eugenicists as one monolithic international movement, as this is how the movement presented itself:

Such men as Rüdin, and Whitney, stress the fact that insanity is increasing at a terrific rate and imply quite definitely that the biological unfitness is thus threatening to swamp the race. --- The writings of Laughlin, Baur, Fischer, Lenz, Mjoen and, practically speaking, all the important books echo these statements and stress eugenic measures as the only possible protection society has against further deterioration. (Pg. 25, "Eugenical Sterilization" - Pg. 109, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'")

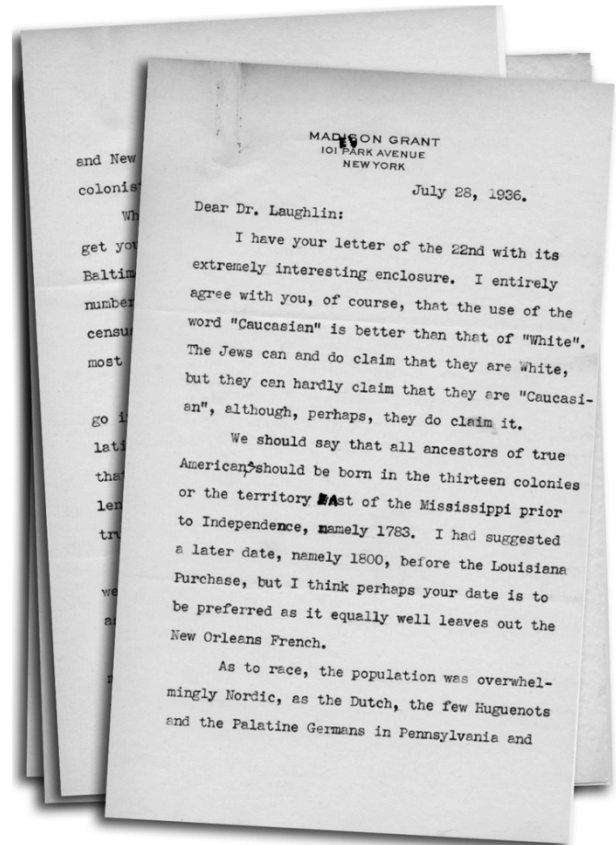
For the purposes of this article it is important to point out that "Eugenical Sterilization" makes it clear that eugenics was an attack on traditional moral ethics. Of note is that this scientific book generously quotes the Roman Catholic Pope in order to underscore this point. The committee also made reference to the dangers of a eugenic utopia:

It is a ... obviously closely allied with idealistic

social religion. If eugenics were ever made the basis of a code of minute legislative prescriptions regarding marriage and reproduction, doubtless it would become an intolerable tyranny. (Pg. 64, "Eugenical Sterilization" - Pg. 110, "From a 'Race of Masters' to a 'Master Race'", emphasis mine)

The eugenics movement started decades prior to Adolf Hitler being born. It was first ridiculed as the radicalism of crackpots and socialists. It gained acceptance despite the clear warnings of sober minds as a generation intent on overturning the moral and political order emerged. As we know, the doctrines of eugenics did produce the most "intolerable tyranny" when it became the law of the land, as eugenicists from Francis Galton onwards desired it to be.

For us, for posterity, it is important to recognize that scientific and intellectual arrogance remains a danger to humanity. Contemporary scientists clamor to reduce the world's population by significant percentages, namely John Holdren of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. We embark towards the 21st Century with politicians committed to submerging the individual under the State's prerogative. The scientific means to "cleanse" humanity of undesirable hereditary traits has only grown more formidable. Propaganda has convinced significant portions of the electorate to distrust the very founding documents that were put in place precisely to protect us from the zealotry of a misguided or powerful few. We embark towards the 21st Century with or morality all the more stunted and our legal protections all the more compromised. We embark upon this precarious path, fully convinced that the past has receded into history, and confident that The Holocaust won't repeat itself as it was the fault of a single madman, long since dead and vanquished.



CORRESPONDENCE FROM MADISON GRANT TO HARRY H. LAUGHLIN DISCUSSING CHANGING THE USE OF THE TERM "WHITE" FOR "CAUCASIAN", AS "JEWS" WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CLAIM TO BE "CAUCASIAN". (HEREIN PUBLISHED AND PRINTED FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH PERMISSION OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT AT TRUMAN UNIVERSITY.)

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