Steven Pinker’s right-wing, alt-right & hereditarian connections


Please note: in an effort to keep the diagram readable I sacrificed completeness. For example: Richard Lynn has also appeared in a Stefan Molyneux video.

This document was created by Nancy McClernan who is solely responsible for its content. Any errors discovered in this document should be directed to info@pinkerite.com

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Introduction to the third edition

1. Since the second edition of Steven Pinker's right-wing, alt-right and hereditarian connections, Pinker and several of the people who appeared in the second edition were identified as aligned with the "Intellectual Dark Web" by Bari Weiss in the New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/08/opinion/intellectual-dark-web.html

In addition to Pinker, those in the diagram identified by Weiss are: Stefan Molyneux, Sam Harris, Claire Lehmann and Charles Murray.

2. It has been found that there are several connections between Quillette authors and the Koch brothers.

Steven Pinker's infamous alt-right comments were made at an event funded by the Kochs. https://www.monbiot.com/2018/12/10/you-want-it-darker/

3. David Duke, the Unz Review, VDare, Taki's Mag and Pinker's "The Blank Slate" have been removed. Mostly for space considerations.

4. Pamela Paresky, FIRE, AEI, Spiked, David Koch and Linda Gottfredson have been added.

5. Quillette has been enlarged to acknowledge its central role in the IDW.

6. Pinkerite a web site and (eventual) podcast was founded in November 2018. Pinkerite addresses the interconnections among Steven Pinker, the Intellectual Dark Web and "race science."

https://www.pinkerite.com

What are hereditarians?

Although right-wing and alt-right are fairly well-known terms, "hereditarian" is not and requires an explanation.

"Hereditarian" - an advocate of the theory that individual differences in human beings can be accounted for primarily on the basis of genetics.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hereditarian

Although in practice the term most often refers to racial differences, as discussed by Linda Gottfredson:

Rushton and Jensen's (2005) hereditarian hypothesis is that Black–White differences in general intelligence (IQ, or the general mental ability factor, g) are “substantially” genetic in origin...

https://www1.udel.edu/educ/gottfredson/reprints/2005hereditarian-hypothesis.pdf

Other terms which are similar are "evolutionary psychology," "human biodiversity" and "racial realism." Related to these terms is "biosocial criminology."

The term "race science" is a frequently-used synonym for hereditarianism.
Steven Pinker

Steven Pinker is an experimental psychologist who conducts research in visual cognition, psycholinguistics, and social relations. He grew up in Montreal and earned his BA from McGill and his PhD from Harvard. Currently Johnstone Professor of Psychology at Harvard, he has also taught at Stanford and MIT. He has won numerous prizes for his research, his teaching, and his nine books, including The Language Instinct, How the Mind Works, The Blank Slate, The Better Angels of Our Nature, and The Sense of Style. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, a Humanist of the Year, a recipient of nine honorary doctorates, and one of Foreign Policy’s “World’s Top 100 Public Intellectuals” and Time’s “100 Most Influential People in the World Today.” He is Chair of the Usage Panel of the American Heritage Dictionary, and writes frequently for The New York Times, The Guardian, and other publications. His tenth book, to be published in February 2018, is called Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress.

https://stevenpinker.com/biocv

In January 2018 Steven Pinker was at the center of a controversy due to a video shot at the Spiked US Unsafe Space Tour, which, it turns out was funded by the Kochs.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Vcn4cnpv6Y

In the video Pinker said:

The other way in which I do agree with my fellow panelists that political correctness has done an enormous amount of harm in the sliver of the population that might be ... I wouldn't want to say persuadable, but certainly whose affiliation might be up for grabs... comes from the often highly literate, highly intelligent people who gravitate to the alt-right. Internet savvy, media savvy, who often are radicalized in that way — who swallow the red pill, as the saying goes, the allusion from The Matrix.

When they are exposed the first time to true statements that have never been voiced in college campuses, or in The New York Times, or in respectable media, they are almost like a bacillus to which they have no immunity. And they're immediately infected with both the feeling of outrage that these truths are unsayable, and no defense against taking them to what we might consider to be rather repellent conclusions.

And a little later...

Here's a third fact that is just not controversial, although it sounds controversial, and that is that different ethnic groups commit violent crimes at different rates. You can go to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Look it up on their website. The homicide rate among African Americans is about seven or eight times higher than it is among European Americans. Terrorism. Go to the Global Terrorism Database, and you find that worldwide, the overwhelming majority of suicide terrorist acts are committed by Islamist extremist groups.

Now, if you've never heard these facts before and you stumble across them, or someone mentions them, it is possible to come to some extreme conclusions. Such as that women are inferior, that African Americans are naturally violent. That we all ought to be anarcho-capitalists and do away with all regulation and social safety nets. That most terrorism in this country is the fault of Muslims.
However, in spite of Pinker's apparent disagreement in this statement with the notion that "African Americans are naturally violent" he has promoted the work of Brian Boutwell who, as a "biosocial criminologist" in fact does believe exactly that - that African Americans are naturally more violent than other "races." It appears that rather than the media or college campuses radicalizing the alt-right, it is Steven Pinker himself who is radicalizing the alt-right by sending his Twitter followers directly to advocates of "extreme conclusions."

https://www.pinkerite.com/2019/04/i-have-nightmare-steven-pinker_2.html

Pinker has promoted the careers of race science proponents Steve Sailer and Razib Khan, see their respective sections in this document for more details.

In January 2019 Steven Pinker's byline appeared for the first (and as of this writing, only) time in Quillette.

https://quillette.com/2019/01/14/enlightenment-wars-some-reflections-on-enlightenment-now-one-year-later/

The Blank Slate

Written by Pinker, published in 2002, this is the New Testament to The Bell Curve's Old Testament for hereditarians.

Although Steven Pinker claims in The Blank Slate that he doesn't agree with the conclusions about black intelligence made in The Bell Curve, he has never to my knowledge explained why, although he agrees with almost every other hereditarian claim, the Bell Curve is wrong about that.

...Intellectuals deny biology, according to Pinker, because it interferes with their pet theories of mind and behavior. These are the Blank Slate (the belief that the mind is wholly shaped by the environment), the Noble Savage (the notion that people are born good but are corrupted by society), and the Ghost in the Machine (the idea that there is a nonbiological agent in our heads with the power to change our nature at will). The "intellectuals" in Pinker’s book are social scientists, progressive educators, radical feminists, academic Marxists, liberal columnists, avant-garde arts types, government planners, and postmodernist relativists. The good guys are the cognitive scientists and ordinary folks, whose common sense, except when it has been damaged by listening to intellectuals, generally correlates with what cognitive science has discovered. I wish I could say that Pinker's view of the world of ideas is more nuanced than this...


Quillette

http://quillette.com

Quillette is an online magazine founded by Australian writer and former psychology graduate student Claire Lehmann. The publication has a primary focus on science, news, culture, and politics. The magazine has been praised by the evolutionary biologist and writer Richard Dawkins, who described it as a "superb online magazine", and has garnered support by the psychologist Jordan Peterson.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quillette

Bari Weiss identified Quillette as: "the publication most associated with (the IDW) movement."

Quillette has published many hereditarians, some of whom have been interviewed by Stefan Molyneux and republished articles in the white supremacist American Renaissance including Kevin M. Beaver, Brian Boutwell, Ben and Bo Winegard and John Paul Wright.

Claire Lehmann

...Australian writer and the editor and founder of the online magazine Quillette. Before starting Quillette, I was a grad-student in psychology, but dropped out after having a baby. I graduated from The University of Adelaide with First Class Honours in 2010. I’ve written for Quillette, Commentary Magazine, Psychology Today, The Sydney Morning Herald, ABC’s The Drum, and my essays have been cited in the National Review, The Wall Street Journal, The Australian, and The Spectator. I live in Sydney with my husband and two children.

https://clairelehmann.net/bio/

Until late 2017 Claire Lehmann was a contributor to Rebel Media.

https://australia.therebel.media/claire_lehmann

Kevin M. Beaver

Judith Rich Harris Professor of Criminology · Director, Distance Learning Program, Florida State University

http://criminology.fsu.edu/faculty-and-staff/college-faculty/kevin-beaver/

Quillette article:


Interviewed twice on Stefan Molyneux’s channel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTCVEVazeRE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Tg0ONGIk00&t

Brian Boutwell

Associate Dean for Research and Corporate Partnerships College for Public Health and Social Justice; Associate Professor Criminology and Criminal Justice, Saint Louis University

https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/faculty/boutwell-brian.php

Quillette articles:

At last count Boutwell has authored or co-authored 24 articles for Quillette

http://quillette.com/page/2/?s=boutwell&submit=Search

Steven Pinker tweeted to his followers links to Quillette articles by Boutwell

https://twitter.com/sapinker/status/691383424351735808

Interviewed on Stefan Molyneux’s channel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQBKn_GNHa4
Ben Winegard

Benjamin Winegard is an Assistant Professor at Hillsdale College.

At last count Ben Winegard has co-authored six articles in Quillette

Steven Pinker tweeted to his followers links to Quillette articles by Winegard.

Articles republished in American Renaissance

Bo Winegard

Bo Winegard is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Marietta College

At last count Bo Winegard has authored or co-authored eight articles for Quillette

Steven Pinker tweeted to his followers links to Quillette articles by Winegard.

Articles republished in American Renaissance

John Paul Wright

Professor, University of Cincinnati... He currently teaches Biosocial Criminology at the undergraduate level and Life-Course Criminology and Criminal Offender at the graduate level.
At last count John Paul Wright has authored one article in **Quillette**
http://quillette.com/2017/01/02/the-university-as-a-total-institution/

Interviewed on **Stefan Molyneux**'s channel
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2w23Zc-Zfs

Wright, **Boutwell** and **Beaver** are all academics who work in criminology, and have published articles and books together.

http://cech.uc.edu/content/dam/cech/programs/criminaljustice/Docs/Vitaes/wrightww.pdf

Of the three, John Paul Wright is the most openly political, publishing with co-author Matt DeLisi in 2015 "**Conservative Criminology: A Call to Restore Balance in the Social Sciences**" and an associated web site Conservative Criminology.

https://www.conservativecriminology.com

Wright is also the most candid about admitting the actual beliefs behind "biosocial criminology." In his chapter "**Inconvenient Truths: Science, Race, and Crime**" in the book "**Biosocial Criminology: New Directions in Theory and Research**" edited by **Kevin M. Beaver** and Anthony Walsh he wrote:

> While self-control is an important executive function, so, too, is intelligence. Indeed, there is no other individual variable as studied as intelligence. While hotly debated, thousands of studies of millions of individual intelligence scores indicate that IQ follows traditional racial categories (Rushton & Jenson, 2005). Asians have an average IQ of 106, Caucasians 100, and Blacks 85 (Lynn, 2006; Sarich & Miele, 2004)…

...Self-control and IQ covary, so that individuals with low self-control are also more likely to have low IQ. These deficits are potent enough to predict many of the negative life-course factors that afflicted individuals will experience. Longitudinal analyses of cohorts of individuals demonstrate that these individuals will face multiple problems across their life-course and that their self-limiting choices will show a high degree of continuity. Most will fail at their education and will then encounter problems in employment… They likely will live a fluid existence, relocating from place to place but often within the same economic stratum (Wright & decker, 1997). Finally their relationships will frequently be marred by conflict, unfaithfulness and unreliability. This pattern holds for anyone with deficits in executive control functions, black, white or Asian, but due to the distribution of low IQ and low self-control found in black populations, it is more often reflected in the lives of blacks.

https://www.amazon.com/Biosocial-Criminology-Directions-Research-Justice/dp/0415989442/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1520285963&sr=8-1&keywords=Biosocial+Criminology%3A+New+Directions+in+Theory+and+Research

Although I haven't found **Beaver** or **Boutwell** writing anything this frank, they also have never, as far as I can tell, had a problem with Wright’s claims and **Beaver** was the editor of the book in which the above excerpt appeared.
Rebel Media

The Rebel Media is a Canadian far-right online political and social commentary media website founded in February 2015 by the former Sun News Network host Ezra Levant, Brian Lilley, and Hamish Marshall... Gavin McInnes, founder of the Proud Boys far-right men’s organization, is also a contributor.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Rebel_Media

Until late 2017 Claire Lehmann was a contributor to Rebel Media.

https://australia.therebel.media/claire_lehmann

Gavin McInnes

McInnes himself has ties to the racist right and has contributed to hate sites like VDare.com and American Renaissance, both of which publish the work of white supremacists and so-called “race realists.”

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/proud-boys

McInnes has been a frequent contributor to Rebel Media.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGy6uV7yqGWDeUWTZt3ZEg/search?query=mcinnes

McInnes declared Steven Pinker to be one of his heroes in Taki’s Magazine.

http://takimag.com/article/a_deadly_strain_of_pms_gavin_mcinnes/print#axzz4RjUDE8ZZ

McInnes appeared on InfoWars.

Members of McInnes' "Proud Boys" were arrested in October 2018 after brawling on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.


McInnes sued the Southern Poverty Law Center for designating Proud Boys as a hate group.


Stefan Molyneux

A skilled propagandist and an effective communicator within the racist “alt-right” and pro-Trump ranks, his promotion of scientific racism and eugenics to a large and growing audience is a serious concern. Molyneux has been delivering “race realist” propaganda, based on pseudo-scientific sources, to his audience on an ongoing basis for over two years, and thus has encouraged thousands of people to adopt his belief in biological determinism, social Darwinism and non-white racial inferiority. Molyneux puts considerable effort into cloaking the practical implications of these beliefs across his media platforms.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/stefan-molyneux

Molyneux interviewed Ezra Levant, founder of Rebel Media.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8Kj-R4Ja08&t=140s

Molyneux also appeared on InfoWars.
In addition to interviews with authors from Quillette, Molyneux has interviewed an assortment of hereditarians on his channel which he has gathered together under the heading Human Intelligence (IQ) | The Experts Interview Series. Those interviewed include Charles Murray, Richard Lynn and Linda Gottfredson.

InfoWars

InfoWars is an American conspiracy theorist website and media platform owned by Alex Jones’s Free Speech Systems LLC. It was founded in 1999. Talk shows and other content is created primarily in studios at an undisclosed location in an industrial area outside Austin, Texas. The InfoWars website receives approximately 10 million monthly visits, making it more visited than some mainstream news websites such as The Economist and Newsweek. The site has regularly published fake stories which have been linked to harassment of victims. In February 2018, Alex Jones, the publisher, director and owner of InfoWars, was accused of discrimination and sexually harassing employees. InfoWars, and in particular Alex Jones, advocate numerous conspiracy theories particularly around purported domestic false flag operations by the US Government (which they allege include the 9/11 attacks and Sandy Hook shootings). InfoWars has issued contractions various times as a result of legal challenges.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/InfoWars

Gavin McInnes and Stefan Molyneux have both appeared on InfoWars.

Razib Khan

On March 18, 2015, The New York Times announced that Razib Khan would become a contributing opinion writer. A day later, The Times terminated the contract. At the time, Khan was a Ph.D. student in genetics at the University of California, Davis and a popular science blogger. He had written about science for The Times, Slate, The Guardian, and other mainstream publications. For years, Discover had hosted his genetics blog. The famed Harvard psychologist Steven Pinker had even called him “an insightful commentator on all things genetic...”...Still, Khan insisted that his writing about the biology of race was sound. “It’s not socially acceptable to say that there might be group differences in an endophenotype — in their behavior, intelligence, anything that might have any genetic component,” Khan said. “You cannot say that, okay? If someone’s going to ask me, I’m going say, ‘it could be true.’” Other scientists, he insisted, believe the same things. They just won’t admit it. “I’m sick of being the only fucking person that says anything,” said Khan. “I know I make people uncomfortable, but a lot of times I say what they’re thinking...”

https://undark.org/article/race-science-razib-khan-racism/

From Steven Pinker’s web site

But aren’t you just being defensive? Authors always think that negative reviews of their book are wrong. Has anyone else replied to Kolbert? Razib Khan has a response in the Gene Expression blog on the Discover magazine

Web site:
Razib Khan had a regular column at Unz Review.

Khan published an article with co-author Brian Boutwell in Quillette.

Steve Sailer

Sailer is the founder of the Human Biodiversity Institute, a neo-eugenics online discussion forum where right-wing journalists and race scientists have promoted selective breeding of the human species. He also writes frequently for the anti-immigrant hate site Vdare.com...

Steve Sailer author at American Renaissance article list.

Unfortunately I never discussed the article with him, an oversight that I regret.

Steven Pinker & Malcolm Gladwell & Steve Sailer

I wondered about the basis of Pinker’s conclusion, so I e-mailed him, asking if he could tell me where to find the scientific data that would set me straight. He very graciously wrote me back. He had three sources, he said. The first was Steve Sailer. Sailer, for the uninitiated, is a California blogger with a marketing background who is best known for his belief that black people are intellectually inferior to white people.

The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2004

In 2004 an article by Steve Sailer, "The Cousin Marriage Conundrum" was included in "The Best American Science and Nature Writing."

Steven Pinker edited the book along with Tim Folger. Folger responded to my email query about Sailer’s inclusion:

In hindsight Sailer's story shouldn't have been included in the anthology, and we should have looked into his background more carefully. Until reading your email today, I knew nothing about Sailer’s alt-right connections. Steven Pinker selected the story, and
Jared Taylor

Taylor entered the active racist scene in 1990, when he founded the New Century Foundation, a pseudo-intellectual think tank that promotes "research" arguing for white superiority. A year later, he began publishing American Renaissance, a magazine that focuses on the alleged links between race and intelligence, and on eugenics, the now discredited "science" of breeding better humans.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/jared-taylor

Richard Spencer

...In 2007, after he dropped out of a Ph.D. program at Duke University in modern European intellectual history, Spencer took a job as assistant editor at American Conservative magazine, where he was later fired for his radical views, according to former colleague J. Arthur Bloom. Following that, Spencer became executive editor of the paleoconservative website, Taki's Magazine. In 2010, Spencer founded AlternativeRight, a supremacy-themed webzine aimed at the “intellectual right wing,” where he remained until joining NPI... In an address at white supremacist Jared Taylor’s 2013 American Renaissance conference, Spencer called for “peaceful ethnic cleansing.” As an example of how this could be accomplished, he cited the 1919 Paris Peace Conference, where new national boundaries were formed at the end of World War I. “Today, in the public imagination, ‘ethnic cleansing’ has been associated with civil war and mass murder (understandably so),” Spencer said. “But this need not be the case. 1919 is a real example of successful ethnic redistribution—done by fiat, we should remember, but done peacefully.”

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/richard-bertrand-spencer-0

American Renaissance

Founded by Jared Taylor in 1990, the New Century Foundation is a self-styled think tank that promotes pseudo-scientific studies and research that purport to show the inferiority of blacks to whites — although in hifalutin language that avoids open racial slurs and attempts to portray itself as serious scholarship. It is best known for its American Renaissance magazine and website, which regularly feature proponents of eugenics and blatant anti-black racists. The foundation also sponsors American Renaissance conferences every other year where racist "intellectuals" rub shoulders with Klansmen, neo-Nazis and other white supremacists.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/american-renaissance

Richard Lynn

Lynn is the current president of the notoriously racist Pioneer Fund. Prior to becoming president in 2012, he received hundreds of thousands of dollars in Pioneer Fund grants, both directly, and through the Ulster Institute for Social Research. Lynn is the founder and president of the Ulster Institute, “a think tank for the support of research on social issues and the publication of works by selected authors in this field.” According to
its website, “The Ulster Institute for Social Research specialises in the application of psychology to the analysis of social problems,” which translates to promoting racist research by Lynn and several of his colleagues and collaborators. He has contributed to several white supremacist publications including VDARE.com, The Occidental Quarterly, and American Renaissance. He also sits on the editorial committee of Mankind Quarterly, a pseudo-scholarly journal dedicated to publishing “articles in controversial areas, including behavioral group differences and the importance of mental ability for individual outcomes and group differences” — a thinly veiled admission that they primarily print racist pseudoscience.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/richard-lynn

Now, as race science leaches back into mainstream discourse, it has also been mainlined into the upper echelons of the US government through figures such as Bannon. The UK has not been spared this revival: the London Student newspaper recently exposed a semi-clandestine conference on intelligence and genetics held for the last three years at UCL without the university’s knowledge. One of the participants was the 88-year-old Ulster-based evolutionary psychologist Richard Lynn, who has described himself as a “scientific racist”.


**Linda Gottfredson**

Following a long tradition of scientific racism, Gottfredson argues that racial inequality, especially in employment, is the direct result of genetic racial differences in intelligence. Relying heavily on money obtained from the white nationalist Pioneer Fund, Gottfredson has worked tirelessly to oppose any and all efforts to reduce racial inequality in both the workplace and in society as a whole.

*In Her Own Words:*

“The bell curve for whites is centered roughly around IQ 100; the bell curve for American blacks roughly around 85; and those for different subgroups of Hispanics roughly midway between those for whites and blacks. The evidence is less definitive for exactly where above IQ 100 the bell curves for Jews and Asians are centered."

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/linda-gottfredson

Gottfredson can be seen ranking races’ IQ with Stefan Molyneux on his Youtube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKdCICJITf4
Pioneer Fund

...Arthur Jensen, an educational psychologist focusing on race since 1966, got more than $1 million in Pioneer grants over three decades. In his famous 1969 attack on Head Start — the early-education program that aims to help poor children — Jensen wrote in the prestigious Harvard Education Review that the problem with black children was that they had an average IQ of only 85. No amount of social engineering could improve that performance, he claimed, adding that "eugenic foresight" was the only solution. In recent decades, the Pioneer Fund has supported mostly American and British race scientists, including a large number of those cited in The Bell Curve, a widely criticized 1994 book that claimed that differences in intelligence were at least partly determined by race. According to Barry Mehler, a leading academic critic of the fund, these race scientists have included Hans Eysenck, Robert A. Gordon, Linda Gottfredson, Seymour Itzkoff, Arthur Jensen, Michael Levin, Richard Lynn, R. Travis Osborne, J. Philippe Rushton, William Shockley and Daniel R. Vining Jr.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/pioneer-fund

R. Philippe Rushton

From 2002 until his death, the Pioneer Fund was headed by Rushton, a Canadian professor who has been investigated for allegedly violating Canadian hate-speech laws. Rushton first courted controversy in 1989 when he published work focusing on the sexual characteristics of different races. His findings: blacks have larger genitals, breasts and buttocks — characteristics that Rushton alleges have an inverse relationship to brain size and, thus, intelligence. Rushton has personally received over $1 million in Pioneer funds to support his work.

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/pioneer-fund

Sam Harris

The “skeptics” movement — whose adherents claim to challenge beliefs both scientific and spiritual by questioning the evidence and reasoning that underpin them — has also helped channel people into the alt-right by way of “human biodiversity.” Sam Harris has been one of the movement’s most public faces, and four posters on the TRS thread note his influence.

Under the guise of scientific objectivity, Harris has presented deeply flawed data to perpetuate fear of Muslims and to argue that black people are genetically inferior to whites. In a 2017 podcast, for instance, he argued that opposition to Muslim immigrants in European nations was “perfectly rational” because “you are importing, by definition, some percentage, however small, of radicalized people.” He assured viewers, “This is not an expression of xenophobia; this is the implication of statistics.” More recently, he invited Charles Murray on his podcast. Their conversation centered on an idea that lies far outside of scientific consensus: that racial differences in IQ scores are genetically based. Though mainstream behavioral scientists have demonstrated that intelligence is less significantly affected by genetics than environment (demonstrated by research that shows the IQ gap between black and white Americans is closing, and that the average
American IQ has risen dramatically since the mid-twentieth century, Harris still dismissed any criticism of Murray’s work as “politically correct moral panic.”

For posters on TRS, Harris’ work blended easily into that of more overtly racist writers like Paul Kersey, whose popular blog, “Stuff Black People Don’t Like,” is reposted on American Renaissance. The site “really gets the noggin joggin and encourages you to search for answers,” one user wrote. Their “biggest stepping stone” was from Harris’ work to Kersey’s blog: “It was there I learned about race realism, IQ, genetics, bell curves, and the economic/ political drivers behind the pushing of ‘diversity.’”

Harris defended his views in his argument with Ezra Klein about the Murray podcast by providing a link to an article by Bo Winegard and Ben Winegard in Quillette, "A Tale of Two Bell Curves" which argues that The Bell Curve is correct about lower inherent black intelligence and in fact states that "no good alternative explanations" to the hereditarian position exist.

Quillette published an article in support of Harris.

Quillette has published many articles which express admiration for Harris.

Sam Harris is listed as a supporter of Quillette on Patreon.

Harris and Pinker have a mutual admiration society as can be seen in this video.

And in tweets such as this.

Charles Murray

Charles Murray has been a central figure in discussions of race, intelligence and public policy since the 1994 publication of The Bell Curve, which Murray co-authored with controversial psychologist Richard Herrnstein, who died shortly before the book’s publication. Murray, a statistically minded sociologist by training, has spent decades working to rehabilitate long-discredited theories of IQ and heredity, turning them into a foundation on which to build a conservative theory of society that rejects equality and egalitarianism.

“You want to have a job training program for welfare mothers? You think that’s going to cure the welfare problem? Well, when you construct that job training program and try to decide what jobs they might qualify for, you had better keep in mind that the mean IQ of welfare mothers is somewhere in the 80s, which means that you have certain limitations in what you’re going to accomplish.”
The year after The Bell Curve was published, in the lead-up to a Republican congress slashing benefits for poorer Americans, Murray gave expert testimony before a Senate committee on welfare reform; more recently, congressman Paul Ryan, who helped push the Republicans’ latest tax cuts for the wealthy, has claimed Murray as an expert on poverty.

One of the reasons scientific racism hasn’t gone away is that the public hears more about the racism than it does about the science. This has left an opening for people such as Murray and Wade, in conjunction with their media boosters, to hold themselves up as humble defenders of rational enquiry.


The Bell Curve

For all the shock value of its assertion that blacks are intractably, and probably biologically, inferior in intelligence to whites and Asians, The Bell Curve is not quite an original piece of research. It is, in spite of all the controversy that is attending its publication, only a review of the literature—an elaborate interpretation of data culled from the work of other social scientists. For this reason, the credibility of its authors, Charles Murray and Richard J. Herrnstein, rests significantly on the credibility of their sources...

Surely the most curious of the sources he and Herrnstein consulted is Mankind Quarterly—a journal of anthropology founded in Edinburgh in 1960. Five articles from the journal are actually cited in The Bell Curve’s bibliography (pp. 775, 807, and 828). 2But the influence on the book of scholars linked to Mankind Quarterly is more significant. No fewer than seventeen researchers cited in the bibliography of The Bell Curve have contributed to Mankind Quarterly. Ten are present or former editors, or members of its editorial advisory board. This is interesting because Mankind Quarterly is a notorious journal of “racial history” founded, and funded, by men who believe in the genetic superiority of the white race.3......

They cite in their book no fewer than thirteen scholars who have benefited from Pioneer Fund grants in the last two decades—the grants total more than $4 million. Many of The
Bell Curve’s sources who worked for Mankind Quarterly were also granted Pioneer money.16...

There is no way to isolate the scholarship of Richard Lynn, and that of the other Mankind Quarterly contributors, from their racial and political views. Social science is not so easily insulated from ideology, as Murray and Herrnstein are quick to emphasize when railing against their critics. The scholarly subcultures on which the authors of The Bell Curve depend for information are hardly less biased than those they are summoned to rebut. The bias of the Mankind Quarterly contributors, however, is much nastier. And as we have seen, some of the scholars Murray and Herrnstein rely on distort the evidence, which in key cases does not support The Bell Curve’s contentions.


Spiked Magazine

Spiked (also written as sp!ked) is a British Internet magazine focusing on politics, culture and society. The magazine was founded in 2001 as a successor to Living Marxism and has been characterised as libertarian "with a moderate right wing bias."


When I asked Spiked what the money was for and whether there had been any other payments, its managing editor, Viv Regan, told me that the Charles Koch Foundation has now given Spiked US a total of $300,000, “to produce public debates in the US about free speech, as part of its charitable activities.” She claims the foundation supports projects “on both the left and the right”. The Koch Foundation has funded “a free-speech oriented programme of public debates on campus titled the Unsafe Space Tour” and four live events, the first of which is titled ‘Should we be free to hate?’. She told me “We’re very proud of our work on free speech and tolerance, and we are proud to be part of the programme.”

https://www.monbiot.com/2018/12/10/you-want-it-darker/

Charles Koch

The retirement of David Koch from Koch Industries will make it easier to see more clearly what has been true from the start: Charles and David Koch, who came to be known as “the Koch brothers,” were equals in bloodlines and in wealth, but Charles has always been the brains behind the brothers’ vast corporate and political operations. Those who know the brothers well predict that David’s retirement will have scant impact, particularly in the political realm, where the Kochs exert enormous influence.

For the past four decades they have tapped their vast fortune from a hundred-and-fifteen-billion-dollar-a-year family business, Koch Industries, to finance a private political machine whose reach and size have been described as rivalling that of the Republican Party. By lavishly underwriting candidates, policy organizations, and advocacy groups—often through untraceable donations—they have pulled American politics toward their own arch-conservative, pro-business, anti-tax, and anti-regulatory agenda, particularly in the environmental area. Although David Koch is also stepping down from his role as chairman of the Americans for Prosperity Foundation, the foundation wing of the Kochs’ main political-advocacy group, their influence isn’t likely to wane anytime soon.
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE)

Foundation for Individual Rights in Education has deep ties to the Koch brothers. The organization has received funding from the Charles G. Koch Foundation, the Claude R. Lambe Foundation, Donors Capital Fund and DonorsTrust. (See below)

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education does not disclose its donors, but some of its funding sources are known through other tax filings. FIRE’s known funders include:

- Adolph Coors Foundation: $45,000 (2012, 2015)
- Bradley Foundation: $1,490,000[9]
- Claude R. Lambe Foundation: $740,000 (2005-2007)
- Jaquelin Hume Foundation: $235,000 (2001-2011)
- Randolph Foundation: $62,000 (2009-2011)
- Sarah Scaife Foundation: $355,000 (2012-2014)
- Searle Freedom Trust: $300,000 (2008-2013)

Pamela Paresky

Pamela Paresky is Senior Scholar in Human Development and Psychology at the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). She writes for Psychology Today online, and served as chief researcher and in-house editor for the New York Times bestseller, “The Coddling of the American Mind: How good intentions and bad ideas are setting up a generation for failure" by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt.

American Enterprise Institute

The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) is an influential right-wing think tank that advocates for lower taxes, fewer protections for consumers and the environment, and cuts to the social safety net.[1] AEI describes itself as "committed to expanding liberty, increasing individual opportunity, and strengthening free enterprise."[2]
In 2014 The Washington Post wrote that under CEO Arthur Brooks, AEI had emerged as "the dominant conservative think tank," becoming more influential than the Heritage Foundation.[1]

During the George W. Bush administration, AEI was regarded "as the intellectual command post of the neoconservative campaign for regime change in Iraq," Vanity Fair noted.[3]

AEI had approximately 225 staff and an annual budget of more than $50 million in 2015. [4]

David H. Koch is on the American Enterprise Institute's National Council, whose members "serve as ambassadors for AEI, providing AEI with advice, insight, and guidance as [it] looks to reach out to new friends across the country."[34]

Between 2002 and 2013, the American Enterprise Institute received a total of $867,289 in funding from the Charles G. Koch Foundation.

Ties to DonorsTrust, a Koch Conduit

DonorsTrust is considered a "donor-advised fund," which means that it divides its funds into separate accounts for individual donors, who then recommend disbursements from the accounts to different non-profits. Funds like DonorsTrust are not uncommon in the non-profit sector, but they do cloak the identity of the original donors because the funds are typically distributed in the name of DonorsTrust rather than the original donors.[36]

Very little was known about DonorsTrust until late 2012 and early 2013, when the Guardian and others published extensive reports on what Mother Jones called "the dark-money ATM of the conservative movement."[37][38]

https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/American_Enterprise_Institute#Ties_to_the_Koch_Brothers