

# The Darwin Effect

*It's influence on*

*Nazism, Eugenics, Racism,*

*Communism, Capitalism & Sexism*

*Jerry Bergman*

## What Others Are Saying about *The Darwin Effect* . . .

Those who enjoy having their “scholastic taste buds” stimulated will experience this book like a smorgasbord of mind-grabbing topics. As you read, you will appreciate the depth and breadth of the subject and continue looking forward to more and more intriguing material on the nefarious influence of Darwinism on modern society.

— Wayne Frair, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Biology  
The Kings College, New York

Jerry Bergman’s *The Darwin Effect* is both comprehensive and compelling. The book is revealing in its detail and at the same time damning with its evidence of a totally destructive worldview. I highly recommend it.

— Emerson Thomas McMullen, PhD, Department of History  
Georgia Southern University

*The Darwin Effect* is a sobering look at the grim reality of what happens to societies whose people really come to believe that all that exists is the result of nothing more than chance and time. Bergman pulls no punches in this eye-opening history of the consequences of the 19th century’s most destructive idea.

— Steven E. Woodworth, PhD, Associate Professor of History  
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX

This book is a tale of a reverse “Midas touch.” Instead of turning to gold, everything the Darwinian worldview touches turns filthy and corroded. Bergman documents a plethora of examples that show the dark side of Darwinism — racism, sexism, communism, hate, and more. Yet, unlike the Midas fable where Midas learns a lesson and all is made right, there is no happy ending to Bergman’s tale . . . so far. But perhaps there is hope — if enough people come to realize what Darwinism and evolution are doing to mankind.

— Professor David J. Oberpriller, Computer Science Department  
Arizona Christian University

## Acknowledgments

I want to thank Emerson Thomas McMullen, PhD, Steven E. Woodworth, PhD, Wayne Frair, PhD, Dr. David Herbert, Professor David Oberpriller, Bryce Gaudian, Bert Thompson, PhD, Clifford Lillo, MA, Robert Kofahl, PhD, Jody Allen, RN, and Professor Aeron Bergman, MA for their feedback on earlier drafts of this work. Needless to say, all mistakes that remain are mine. I also want to thank Bolton Davidheiser, PhD, John Woodmorappe, MA, and Ian Taylor for their comments on earlier drafts of this book.

## Photo Credits

CC BY-SA 2.0: 46, 303

CC BY-SA 2.0 BE: 39

CC BY-SA 3.0: 200

CC BY-SA 3.0 DE: 344

Library of Congress: 117, 136, 255, 257

Library of Congress/Science Source: 176

PD-Art: 49, 246

PD-US: 14, 18, 36, 58, 68, 69, 80, 100, 115, 128, 134, 163, 170, 177, 202, 270, 273, 309, 326, 349, 352, 354

Shutterstock: 26, 30, 32, 40

First printing: September 2014

Copyright © 2014 by Jerry Bergman. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations in articles and reviews. For information write:

Master Books<sup>®</sup>, P.O. Box 726, Green Forest, AR 72638  
Master Books<sup>®</sup> is a division of the New Leaf Publishing Group, Inc.

ISBN: 978-0-89051-837-3

Library of Congress Number: 2014948502

Cover by Diana Bogardus

Please consider requesting that a copy of this volume be purchased by your local library system.

**Printed in the United States of America**

Please visit our website for other great titles:  
[www.masterbooks.net](http://www.masterbooks.net)

For information regarding author interviews,  
please contact the publicity department at (870) 438-5288



## Table of Contents

Foreword by Dr. David Herbert .....	7
Chapter 1: Introduction .....	9
Chapter 2: The Origins of Biological Racism.....	25
Chapter 3: Darwin's Cousin, Sir Francis Galton, and the Eugenics Movement .....	43
Chapter 4: Racism Expounded by Leading Darwinists for Over a Century .....	61
Chapter 5: H.G. Wells: Darwin's Disciple and Eugenicist Extraordinaire.....	79
Chapter 6: Darwinism and the Tasmanian Genocide.....	91
Chapter 7: The Eugenics Movement Comes to America.....	113
Chapter 8: Darwinism's Important Influence on the Ku Klux Klan .....	133
Chapter 9: Exploiting Non-Westerners for Evolutionary Evidence.....	161
Chapter 10: Ota Benga: The Pygmy Displayed in a Zoo .....	175
Chapter 11: Darwinism and the Exploitation of Deformed Humans.....	199
Chapter 12: Darwinists Taught Human Females Are Inferior to Males.....	219
Chapter 13: Darwinism's Critical Influence on Ruthless Capitalism .....	251
Chapter 14: The Darwinian Foundation of the Communist Holocaust .....	267
Chapter 15: How Darwinism Inspired the Chinese Communist Holocaust .....	301
Chapter 16: Darwinian Criminality Theory: A Tragic Chapter in History .....	317
Chapter 17: Darwinism and the 20th-Century Totalitarianism Holocaust.....	341



## Foreword

In the spring of 2008 outside the gates of the University of Western Ontario, I approached a second-year philosophy student and asked if he would complete a questionnaire relating to my book, *Charles Darwin's Religious Views* (2009). In an ensuing conversation, he, being an avowed atheist and evolutionist, declared in no uncertain terms that all moral values were totally relativistic. I asked him if a man molested a seven-year-old girl (the ages of my two granddaughters at that time), was such an act wrong? He calmly replied, "Absolutely not! Remember, we are nothing more than animals."

Dr. Jerry Bergman's newest book, *The Darwin Effect*, traces the roots of this university student's heinous mode of reasoning. Dr. Bergman correctly identified the evolutionary writings of Charles Darwin, especially *The Origin of Species* (1859) and *Descent of Man* (1871), as a major contributing factor. Evolutionism, ensconced within a naturalistic worldview, emerged as a dominant religious perspective in the 20th century. Within this time frame, eugenics — the application of evolutionary dogma upon humans — left an unspeakable carnage in its wake.

Francis Galton, Charles Darwin's cousin, was the founder and publicist of the eugenics movement. Having died in 1911, he never witnessed the

untold worldwide suffering that his villainous philosophy caused. Eugenics, placed in the hearts and hands of such maniacal autocrats as Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, and Chairman Mao, resulted in a predictable maelstrom. Dr. Bergman has estimated that this diabolical trio caused 400 million people to perish.

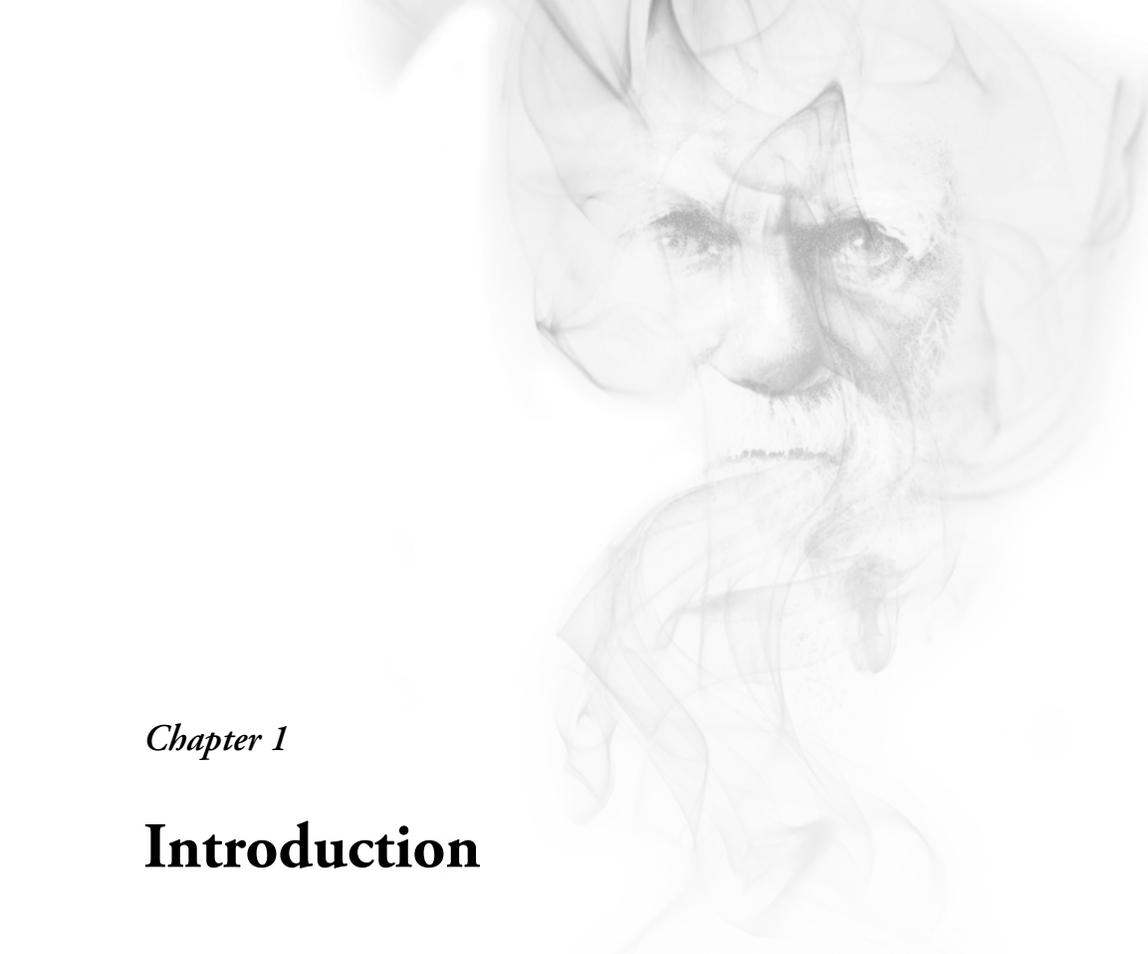
H.G. Wells, a prolific writer of some 100 books, is renowned for his *The Outline of History* (1920) of which, remarkably, some two million copies have been sold. One is not surprised with his ardent evolutionary bias in view of the fact that Wells was a student of T.H. Huxley, Darwin's bulldog. But most disconcerting was his firm commitment to eugenics. He publicly advocated the elimination of the so-called "unfit" — those with incurable diseases, the mentally ill, and the disabled. Furthermore, he sympathized with Nazism and its desire to form a white superior Aryan race.

Dr. Bergman's portrayal of Ota Benga poignantly illustrates the disastrous effects that Darwinism can have on an individual. The mistreatment and eventual suicide of this Congolese Pygmy has to be one of the darker moments of American racism. This well-researched book is an excellent companion volume to Dr. Bergman's *The Dark Side of Charles Darwin* (2011).

Dr. David Herbert, historian ([www.diherbert.ca](http://www.diherbert.ca)) (Dr. Herbert earned his doctorate from the University of Toronto.)

### References

Herbert, David. *Charles Darwin's Religious Views*. Kitchener, Ontario, Canada: Joshua Press, 2009.



## *Chapter 1*

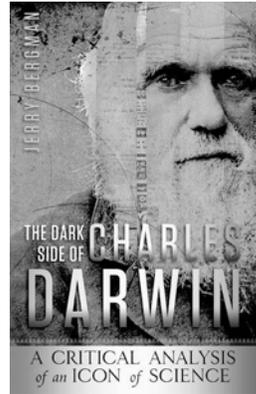
# **Introduction**

**T**his book documents how often — and how easily — Darwinism has been exploited for sinister political ends by a wide assortment of persons and movements (Sebastian and Bohlin 2009). Since the turn of the last century, a large number of professors and scientists became Darwinists, and, as a result, had an enormous influence and effect on society.

For example, historian Professor Aziz wrote that “with the exception of several isolated cases of courage, the German University as a whole accepted without protest the notion that the medical people should be accomplices to the massacre” of so-called less fit humans during the Nazi rule in Germany (Aziz 1976, 113). Aziz added that “almost a third of the psychiatry department chairmen [in Nazi Germany] were participating in the [eugenics] program as experts in the selection and elimination of the mentally ill” (Aziz 1976, 113). Worldwide, even many Jews were involved in/or supported eugenics, although in contrast to the German eugenicists conclusion, the ethnic groups they thought were inferior were all non-Jews, not Jews (Glad 2011).

This book, and my two other books in this series, *The Dark Side of*

*Charles Darwin and Hitler and the Nazis Darwinian Worldview: How the Nazis Eugenic Crusade for a Superior Race Caused the Greatest Holocaust in World History* document the fact that Darwin was responsible, directly and indirectly, for more holocausts, suffering, and destruction of property than any other man in history. As this book documents, his ideas inspired not only Nazism, but also communism and ruthless capitalism, costing the lives of an estimated up to one-quarter billion persons. Barrett et al has documented that in the last century 45.5 million Christians were martyred, a large number specifically by movements inspired by Charles Darwin, who in turn was a major influence on the former-Christian-turned-atheist Karl Marx, as documented in chapters 14 and 15 (2001). It is sometimes argued that someone else would have come along to achieve what Darwin did, which may be true, but this rationalization is like saying that if Hitler did not exist, someone else would have caused the same horrors in Germany that he did. Therefore, Hitler was not a bad guy because the Holocaust that he and his close followers brought about would have occurred anyway.



Darwinism is the view of origins first popularized by Charles Robert Darwin (1809–1882). This view is now often called neo-Darwinism because many modifications were made in Darwin's theory, including the view that the main source of variety is mutation instead of Darwin's semi-Lamarckian theory. Neo-Darwinism teaches that simple molecules, such as methane, water, hydrogen, and ammonia, evolved into all life forms from bacteria to humans by the natural selection of genetic mistakes called mutations by natural selection (survival of the fittest), chance, the outworking of natural law, plus enormous amounts of time.

The political persuasions of those who have harnessed Darwin for evil range from the so-called radical right to the extreme left. The history of Darwinism's critical role in communism, capitalism, eugenics, Nazism, and sexism is told in the following pages in engaging prose that reads like a historical novel (except it is fact). As will be documented, although racism existed before Darwin published his 1859 work *Origin of Species*, Darwinism gave the human inferior-superior racial hierarchy theory the respectability and authority of science, increasing the racism problem in the Western world by several orders of magnitude (Gould 1977, 127). Part of the problem was that the 19th-century world

had created a new god — Science. Such creeds as Scientism and the even more rational Positivism held that science would wrest all cosmological mysteries from the churches and that science itself would then take on [the direction of society]. . . . All mankind's problems would be solved through the knowledge of natural and social processes (Jones 2002, 299–300).

This book elucidates what has happened as a result of creating this new god.

A major objection to my conclusions is the correct observation that other factors also contributed to the evils discussed in the following pages. I have no quibble with this observation. This work, though, is about the important influence of Darwinism on eugenics, racism, sexism, capitalism, Nazism, and communism. Many other books and articles have evaluated the other factors influencing these “isms,” but these factors are not the focus of this work. It is well documented in the scholarly literature that Darwinism had a major influence on all of these 20th-century evils, and this work attempts to understand some of the details of this influence (Bergman 2012).

Darwinism did not make any major contributions of practical benefit for humanity, at least compared to the discovery of DNA, antibiotics, the invention of the transistor, the computer chip, or MRI. It has been placed at the pinnacle of media and scientific esteem, not by scientific fact or history, but rather by a vast and expensive public-relations program paid for by tax dollars (Sewell 2009).

The focus here is on the practical and political results of applying Darwinism to society, not its validity. One specific focus in most chapters is on the Darwinian-inspired eugenics movement that has swept the world for major parts of the last two centuries and still influences many today. In researching eugenics, one issue is to understand

how a tightly knit group of scientists (and most of the main actors in this story were scientists — biologists, zoologists, psychologists and doctors) went about trying to sell an esoteric idea to the general public; how they organized, mobilized, and influenced politicians; and how they succeeded in getting laws enacted to suit their ideological purposes (Sewell 2009, xi–xii).

This work details the enormous harm that this esoteric movement has caused society, and carefully documents this conclusion with hundreds of references.

Daniel Dennett wrote that evolution is a universal acid that dissolves

every ethical and moral system it encounters (1995). The extent that evolution is indeed such a “universal acid” which helps in explaining societal decay is covered in some detail. For some persons, evolution even explains, and to some evolutionists justifies, rape (Thornhill and Palmer 2000).

Evolution teaches that nature selects those organisms which leave more offspring, and the more sexually aggressive a person, the more offspring he will usually produce, passing on the genes that cause sexual aggression to a disproportionate number of offspring. As a result, Darwinists teach that this trait will become more common in the population.

Many scholarly tomes cover the adverse influence of Darwinism on society, but the goal of this work is a readable, hard-hitting, well-supported account that documents this connection. One major adverse influence of Darwinism is the idea of eugenics, a term coined by Darwin’s cousin Francis Galton (1822–1911). Eugenics is the belief that improvements in society require breeding better people using techniques similar to breeding better animals. Eugenics teaches that, as humans are animals, use of forced sterilization or, in extreme cases euthanizing inferior people as the Nazis did, will cause the human race to evolve in desirable directions. There is “no doubt about the [Darwinian] lineage of eugenics itself,” and in the “years leading up to the First World War, the eugenics movement looked like a Darwin family business.” Specifically

Darwin’s son Leonard replaced his cousin Galton as chairman of the national Eugenics Society in 1911. In the same year an offshoot of the society was formed in Cambridge. Among its leading members were three more of Charles Darwin’s sons, Horace, Francis and George. The group’s treasurer was a young economics lecturer at the university, John Maynard Keynes, whose younger brother Geoffrey would later marry Darwin’s granddaughter Margaret. Meanwhile, Keynes’s mother, Florence, and Horace Darwin’s daughter Ruth, sat together on the committee of the Cambridge Association for the Care of the Feeble-Minded . . . a front organization for eugenics (Sewell 2009, 54).

The author has endeavored not to misrepresent Darwinism, but also felt compelled to cover details that are often sorely neglected in much of the evolution literature. The picture documented in this work is not pretty — but both sad and tragic. The words of leading Darwinian scientists, such as Charles Darwin and Ernst Haeckel, whose racist ideas were crystal clear in their writings, were often allowed to speak for themselves.

Richard Dawkins has also convinced many persons that a “slam-dunk case [exists] for giving up any search for meaning, purpose or direction in human affairs” (Sewell 2009, 8). Historian Dennis Sewell is not so confident of the validity of Dawkins’s case:

Eugenics might have remained where it began, on the margins of British political life, something to be discussed in draughty temperance halls at meetings of the Rationalist Association (for the Darwinist/atheist axis had already become well established). However, unlike many other esoteric theories of the day . . . the eugenics movement could count on the support not only of cranks, but of Cambridge academics, fellows of the Royal Society and large numbers of the medical profession itself (Sewell 2009, 55).

Sewell then concluded that the Darwinism/atheist axis launched

what would prove to be an impressive political lobbying campaign. In a remarkably short space of time, the vocabulary and basic principles of eugenics spread through the middle class, becoming almost the rule rather than the exception. This rapid mainstreaming of what began as a quirky set of ideas was rather like the way that the environmental movement developed in our own times (Sewell 2009, 55).

### **Hitler and the Nazis**

The best and one of the most extreme examples of the attempt to apply eugenics to humans is the National Socialist Workers Party, or Nazi, movement. Hitler made it clear in his writings and speeches that he believed

only a tiny part of what is usually regarded as mankind consists of human beings — notably those whom he imagined to be of Nordic descent. . . . The rest — what he called racial mish-mash — belongs not to mankind but to an inferior species . . . simply animals disguised as human beings (Cohn 1967, 187).

Professor Norman Cohn documents that this racist idea was “disguised as scientific truth” by the German government, the racial scientists, and the academics at leading German universities. This idea was then used to terrorize “Europe from the English Channel to the Volga” (Cohn 1967, 187). To support this conclusion, Cohn quotes from a document issued by

the German government that concludes non-Nordics or non-Aryans were subhuman creatures that biologically look as though

it were of absolutely the same kind, endowed by Nature with hands, feet and a sort of brain, with eyes and mouth — is nevertheless a totally different, a fearful creature, is only an attempt at a human being, with a quasi-human face, yet in mind and spirit lower than any animal (Cohn 1967, 188).

The document explained that inside of these quasi-humans is “a cruel chaos of wild, unchecked passions: a nameless will to destruction, the most primitive lusts, the most undisguised vileness” (quoted in Cohn 1967, 188). They concluded that these inferior people must be destroyed for the good of society and, as chapters 1–11 of this book will explain, Hitler’s view was firmly grounded in Darwinism (Bergman 2012). The movement of eugenics from theory to politics, then to social control

required an expansion of state agencies and an expansion of their scope for prying into — and ultimately directing — the lives of the poor. “A system will also be established for the examination of the family history of all those placed on the register as being unquestionably mentally abnormal,” said Leonard Darwin, “especially as regards the criminality, insanity, ill health and pauperism of their relatives. . . . If all this were done, it can hardly be doubted that many strains would be discovered which no one could deny ought to be made to die out in the interests of the nation [in what in Germany became a short step to the holocaust] (Sewell 2009, 54–55).

The result was the Holocaust. The Nazi concentration camp Dachau was liberated by the U.S. Army about a month before the 15th Engineer



Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini in October of 1936, with Germany and Italy declaring their alliance.

Battalion arrived in May of 1945. Part of that battalion was U.S. soldier Martin Gaudian. He wrote that the first thing he saw when he arrived in Dachau was an

8 to 10 year-old boy standing by a furnace talking to another soldier. He was showing him some pictures of bodies that had been placed into the furnace. He had many pictures that he sold to the soldier. He mentioned that his parents had also been gassed and burned. The same day I remember seeing the water tower. It had been used by Dr.'s who performed experiments to see how long humans could survive during the cold months in freezing water. Then I remember seeing this huge warehouse not far from the brick building where we were housed. I walked over to the building and went inside. The first part I entered was like a small entry room with shelves on the wall. One large shelf had jars with human body parts in the jars in a liquid solution. I remember seeing an eye, ear, heart, sexual organs, fingers, etc. Then I entered the warehouse section of the building. There were huge tables loaded with all kinds of precision tools — protractors, measuring instruments, tools, pliers, other gripping devices, bayonets . . . the room was huge, maybe 200 feet long, 50 feet wide (Gaudian 2010, 1).

Darwinian racism contributed not just to eugenics but also to the Holocaust. In a speech given March 5, 1943, German commander of occupied Ukraine Erich Koch said the Aryans

are the Master Race and must govern hard . . . I will draw the very last out of this country. I did not come to spread bliss. . . . The population must work, work, and work again. . . . We have come here to create the basis for victory. We are a master race, which must remember that the lowliest German worker is racially and biologically a thousand times more valuable than the population here [in Ukraine] (quoted in Piotrowski 1998, 30).

Historian Tadeusz Piotrowski concluded that the “sheer enormity and horror of that attempt at genocide will forever haunt mankind.” The same Darwinian motivations were also shared by Stalinism, producing similar results, only worse (Geyer and Fitzpatrick 2009). Among the worst examples of the application of Darwinism was done by the scientific establishment, especially the medical profession.

A doctor in the Auschwitz camp, Dr. Miklos Nyiszli, wrote that Nazi doctors hoped studying twins would solve the problem of faster reproduction of superior races by advancing

one step in the search to unlock the secret of multiplying the race of superior beings destined to rule was a “noble goal.” If only it were possible, in the future, to have each German mother bear as many twins as possible! The project, conceived by the demented theorists of the Third Reich, was utterly mad. And it was to Dr. Mengele, chief physician of the Auschwitz KZ [concentration camp], the notorious “criminal doctor,” that these experiments had been entrusted (Nyiszli 2011, 60).

He added that among the many

malefactors and criminals, the most dangerous type is the “criminal doctor,” especially when he is armed with powers such as those granted to Dr. Mengele. He sent millions of people to death merely because, according to a racial theory, they were inferior beings and therefore detrimental to mankind (Nyiszli 2011, 60).

To make this claim, Dr. Nyiszli relied on his own first-hand experience and knowledge to draw his conclusion about doctors and Nazism. He writes that Mengele

spent long hours beside me, either at his microscopes, his disinfecting ovens and his test tubes or, standing with equal patience near the dissecting table, his smock befouled with blood, his bloody hands examining and experimenting like one possessed. The immediate objective was the increased reproduction of pure Germans in numbers sufficient to replace the Czechs, Hungarians, Poles, all of whom were condemned to be destroyed, but who for the moment were living on those territories declared vital to the Third Reich (Nyiszli 2011, 60).

Much has been written about the Jewish Holocaust, but this event was only part of the ugly fruits of eugenics. Close to the staggering number of

12,000 Polish people died in the occupied territories as a result of the Nazi euthanasia program. Of this total, 10,000 were from hospitals for the mentally impaired. That this was only the beginning of the Nazi plan for achieving a superior race of human beings is borne

out by Gauleiter Arthur Greiser's intention to exterminate 25,000 to 35,000 Poles in Kraj Warty (Piotrowski 1998, 28).

The excuse given for these murders was because the victims "suffered from tuberculosis," a contagious disease that the Nazis incorrectly believed was a hereditary disease. One often-ignored example of Darwinian racism is that not only many Jews and Poles died in the Nazi concentration camps, but also

Gypsies, who, like the Jews, were slated for total extermination. Although the king of the European Gypsies and president of the Gypsies in the General Government, Rudolf Kwiek, in 1942 offered collaboration in exchange for better treatment of his people, his proposal went unanswered. Of the 75,000 to 85,000 Gypsies in prewar Poland, over 50,000 died (Piotrowski 1998, 29).

Piotrowski speculated that if Germany had "won the war, there is no doubt that the scope of the Nazi euthanasia program would have been eventually broadened to include all those who, for whatever reason, were not able to contribute to the economic well-being of the Third Reich" (Piotrowski 1998, 28). From the evidence, Professor Michael Burleigh concluded that

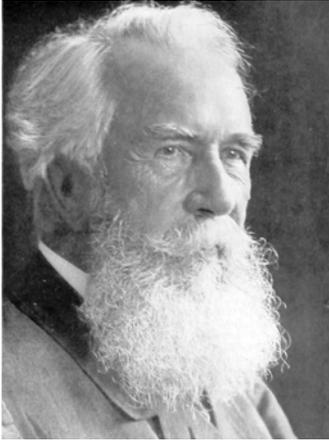
Hitler's objectives were almost without limit. Nor was his planning hampered by questions of cost, human or otherwise, for war in his eyes had a positive, regenerative value for the "health" of the race and nation. As he said, "We may have a hundred years of struggle before us; if so, all the better — it will prevent us from going to sleep" (Burleigh 1999, 343).

Although the racist conclusion was once almost universal among Darwinian scientists, such as the assertion that "black people were closer in the evolutionary scale to apes than white people," this belief is recognized "by scientists today as a ghastly mistake." Unfortunately, evolutionary scientists have not taken responsibility for this mistake, and traces of Darwinian eugenics still "linger in the minds of millions, affecting attitudes of race everywhere" (Sewell 2009, 20).

As evidence of this fact, Sewell noted that Nobel Laureate James Watson "explained his gloomy prognosis for Africa's social and economic development" by arguing that we could not expect "the intellectual capacities of people graphically separated in their evolution should prove to have evolved" to the level of the more highly evolved, technologically sophisticated whites (Sewell 2009, 19).

### Darwinism's Importance to Communist Movement

The importance of Darwinism to the success of the communist movement, as outlined in chapters 14 and 15, was documented by Oxford University history professor Niall Ferguson who wrote



Ernst Haeckel was a German naturalist, biologist, and philosopher of evolution.

just as doubts had begun to assail the Marxists, a breakthrough in an unrelated field of science provided a vital new source of validation for their model of social change. Darwin's revolutionary statement of the theory of natural selection was immediately seized upon by Engels as fresh evidence for the theory of class conflict — though it was not long before the same claims were being made by theorists of racial conflict, who crudely misinterpreted and distorted Darwin's complex (and at times contradictory) message. Writers like Thomas Henry Huxley and Ernst Haeckel took the earlier racial theories of Gobineau and modernized them with a simplified model of

natural selection in which competition between individual creatures became a crude struggle between races (Ferguson 1999, 41–42).

He added that “Darwin's revolutionary statement of the theory of natural selection” soon “became the common currency of much political debate at the turn of the century” and

“Social Darwinism” rapidly took on a host of different forms: the pseudoscientific work of eugenic theorists . . . and ultimately, of course, the violent, anti-Semitic fantasies of Hitler which combined racialism and socialism in what was to prove the most explosive ideology of the twentieth century. But what linked them was their deterministic (in some cases, apocalyptic) thrust, and indifference to the notion of individual free will. Given this apparent convergence of Marx and Darwin — despite their starkly different intellectual origins — it is hardly surprising that belief in the possibility of deterministic laws of history was so widespread during and after their lifetimes (Ferguson 1999, 42).

Ferguson documented the central role of race in the Nazi movement by detailing their plans after they won the war. All inferior races, such as the Slavic race (which is where we get our word slave), will be slaves for the superior race and will by law not be able to get an education or rule themselves in a system very much like the slavery system was in America.

### **Eugenics Still with Us Today**

Eugenics is not dead today, just subtler. One example is the case of the self-proclaimed Social Darwinist Pekka-Eric Auvinen, an 18-year-old Finnish high school student who on November 7, 2007, murdered six students, a nurse, and the school's head teacher and wounded more than a dozen others at Jokela High School in Jokela, a town in the municipality of Tuusula, Finland (Williams 2007; Odd Culture 2007, Anonymous 2007).

Auvinen was concerned that humans had slowed, or even reversed, evolution in Western society, and was determined personally to do something about what he saw as this problem (Sewell 2009, 45). He wrote on his blog that the “stupid, weak-minded people reproduce . . . faster than intelligent, strong-minded” persons like himself (Sewell 2009, 45). Auvinen added he hated Christianity and other “enslaving religions” and, in contrast, he favored “evolution science” (Anonymous 2007, 1).

Auvinen carefully thought through the philosophical implications of Darwin's argument and concluded that humans, like every other animal, have no special value because evolution has proved that life was without long-term purpose or meaning, but rather was simply a cause-and-effect result of a long process of survival of the fittest (Sewell 2009, 45). He also wrote, “I am a cynical existentialist,” a “social Darwinist,” and an “atheist,” adding that “Life is just a meaningless coincidence” the “result of [a] long process of evolution and many . . . factors, causes and effects” and “there are no other universal laws than the laws of nature and the laws of physics.” He added:

Evolution is both a theory and a fact, creationism is neither one. . . . Religious people, your gods are nothing and exist only in your heads. Your slave morals means nothing. . . . Human life is not sacred. Humans are just a species among other animals and the world does not exist only for humans. Death [and killing] is not a tragedy, it happens in nature all the time. . . . Not all human lives are important or worth saving (Auvinen 2007).

He further stated,

Only superior (intelligent, self-aware, strong-minded) individuals should survive while inferior (stupid, retarded, weak-minded masses) should perish. Today the process of natural selection is totally misguided. It has reversed. . . . Modern human race has not only betrayed its ancestors, but the future generations too. It's time to put Natural Selection and Survival of the Fittest back on track! (Auvinen 2007).

Auvinen concluded that he has “evolved a step higher” than most of the rest of us. His special plea was that his actions would result in society taking the role of social Darwinism more seriously. Auvinen stressed that movies, television, computer games, and music were not the source of his motivation to murder those he judged inferior, but rather his motivation was Darwinism (Sewell 2009, 46).

Furthermore, he chose his victims with care, “trying to weed out those who were, in his judgment, the unfit” (Sewell 2009, 46). To those of us not intoxicated with Darwinism, he was psychotic or, at the least, simply an evil, misguided young man. He intended to cause maximum bloodshed, and had with him 500 cartridges and used a total of 69 cartridge cases (Anonymous 2007). His own words, as printed in his *Natural Selector's Manifesto*, are as follows:

How Did Natural Selection Turn Into Idiocratic Selection? Today the process of natural selection is totally misguided. It has reversed. Human race has been devolving very long time for now. Retarded and stupid, weak-minded people are reproducing more and faster than the intelligent, strong-minded people. Laws protect the retarded majority which selects the leaders of society. Modern human race has not only betrayed its ancestors, but the future generations too. *Homo sapiens*, HAH! It is more like a *Homo Idioticus* to me! When I look at people I see every day in society, school and everywhere . . . I can't say I belong to the same race as the lousy, miserable, arrogant, selfish human race! No! I have evolved one step above!

Humans are just a species among other animals and the world does not exist only for humans. Death and killing is not a tragedy, it happens in nature all the time between all species. Not all human lives are important or worth saving. Only superior (intelligent, self-aware, strong-minded) individuals should survive while inferior

(stupid, retarded, weak-minded masses) should perish.

There is also another solution to the problem: stupid people as slaves and intelligent people as free. . . . they who have free minds, are capable of intelligent existential and philosophical thinking and know what justice is, should be free and rulers . . . and the robotic masses, they can be slaves since they do not mind it now either and because their minds are on so retarded level. The gangsters that now rule societies, would of course get what they deserve (Odd Culture 2007).

He concluded by adding, “Life is just a meaningless coincidence . . . result of a long process of evolution and many several factors, causes and effects” (Odd Culture 2007).

The Columbine killers — who Sewell described as “two amateur social Darwinists” — made similar arguments as did Auvinen (Sewell 2009, 47). The school shooting occurred on April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School in Columbine, an unincorporated area of Jefferson County, Colorado. Two senior students, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, embarked on a shooting spree, murdering 12 students and one teacher, and injuring 21 other students directly, and three others while attempting to escape.

The pair then committed suicide. Eric Harris wore a “Natural Selection” T-shirt on the day of the massacre he committed at Columbine High School, and both killers made remarks on a video about helping natural selection along by eliminating the weak among humankind. They also made frequent references to evolution, all which were ignored by the press (Sewell 2009, 47).

Another example is James Jay Lee, 43, who armed himself with a gun and bombs and held three hostages, two employees, and a security guard in the Discovery Channel building in Maryland. His demands included, “The Discovery Channel and its affiliate channels MUST have daily television programs at prime time slots . . . [featuring] leading scientists who understand and agree with the Malthus-Darwin science.” He demanded the network “develop shows that mention the Malthusian sciences about how food production leads to the overpopulation of the Human race. Talk about Evolution. Talk about Malthus and Darwin until it sinks into the stupid people’s brains until they get it!!” (Brumfield and Miller 2010).

The police shot him when he evidently attempted to murder one of the hostages. As the hostages got ready to make a break for it, the officers who were moving in on Lee heard a noise they thought could have been gunfire

or a bomb detonating. In response, they shot Lee dead, ending the drama that had lasted for roughly four hours. Lee's homemade pipe bombs, one of which went off when he was shot, were propane canisters containing shotgun shells. Authorities found and detonated four more similar devices.

During the standoff, the three hostages spent most of the time lying on the floor. Lee only infrequently engaged them in conversation, but did say, "I don't care about these people," explaining that his goal of getting the network to show more Darwinism material was more important. Montgomery County Police Chief Thomas Manger said Lee did not expect to come out alive and "told us many times over the course of hours that he was ready to die" (Brumfield and Miller 2010).

The serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer's case is another example. In an interview with Stone Phillips on *Dateline NBC*, which aired November 29, 1994, Dahmer said that if a person does not believe

that there is a God to be accountable to, then what's the point of trying to modify your behavior to keep it within acceptable ranges? That's how I thought anyway. I always believed the theory of evolution as truth, that we all just came from the slime. When we died, you know, that was it, there is nothing, and I've since come to believe that the Lord, Jesus Christ is truly God, and I believe that I, as well as everyone else, will be accountable to him (quoted in Ratcliff 2006, 55).

Reverend Ratcliff, a Madison, Wisconsin, Church of Christ minister, baptized Dahmer after he professed his Christian faith. Of note is that this segment was removed from the DVD version of the interview (Phillips 2006).

These few modern examples show how easily Darwin's writings can lead to, or at least influence, very disturbed ways of thinking and behaving. Using abortion to produce fitter humans and government programs to control medical decisions based on modern soft eugenics are other contemporary examples (Bergman 2008). Most of us do not feel comfortable leaving these judgments to scientists or politicians.

One example of abortion used to produce "fitter" children is a woman who aborted her first two children because the sonogram of each one showed an extra finger. The doctor in the case later learned that the mother was born with the same condition, which in her case had been effectively dealt with by a fairly minor operation. Yet the doctor reported that she chose to abort two children who had inherited her minor flaw, one that caused few, if any, adverse life consequences (Sewell 2009).

Behavior of those like Pekka-Eric Auvinen, James Lee, Eric Harris, and Jeffrey Dahmer is, albeit on a small scale, not unlike the attitudes once common in Nazi Germany. The explosion in evolutionary psychology that attempts to describe every human behavior, including religion, sexual orientation, occupational interests, and the work ethic as genetically determined, are other modern examples.

Darwinism has caused widespread dehumanization. It has misled us in the past and still does so today — and will likely continue to do so in the near future as a result of the genetics revolution and the ability to select so-called “fitter” children by techniques such as DNA sequencing and *in vitro* fertilization. To defend Darwin, some persons correctly argue that anything can be abused — sex, food, religion, time, evolution, and money. In the case of Darwinism, though, the abuses were often a direct and logical application of the Darwinian survival-of-the-fittest worldview.

## References

- Anonymous. 2007. Finland Gunman Suicide Note Found. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7085329.stm> accessed April 18, 2012.
- Auvinen, Pekka-Eric. 2007. The Pekka Eric Auvinen Manifesto. <http://oddculture.com/odd-crime/the-pekka-eric-auvinen-manifesto/> accessed April 18, 2012.
- Aziz, Philippe. 1976. *Doctors of Death. Vol 4, In the Beginning was the Master Race*. Geneva: Ferni Publishers.
- Barrett, David, George Kurian, and Todd Johnson. 2001. *World Christian Encyclopedia*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- BBC News. 2007. Finland Gunman Suicide Note Found. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7085329.stm> accessed April 18, 2012.
- Bergman, Jerry. 2008. Birth Control Leader Margaret Sanger: Darwinist, Racist and Eugenicist. *Journal of Creation* 22(3):62–67.
- . 2012. *Hitler and the Nazis Darwinian Worldview: How the Nazis Eugenic Crusade for a Superior Race Caused the Greatest Holocaust in World History*. Kitchener, Ontario, Canada: Joshua Press.
- Burleigh, Michael. 1999, in Ferguson, 1999. *Virtual History: Alternatives and Counterfactuals*. New York, NY: Basic Books, ch. 6, Nazi Europe: What if Nazi Germany Had Defeated the Soviet Union.
- Brumfield, Sarah, and Kathleen Miller. 2010. Police: Discovery Channel Hostages Planned Escape. [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_discovery\\_channel\\_gunman](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_discovery_channel_gunman). September 2, accessed April 18, 2012.
- Cohn, Norman. 1967. *Warrant for Genocide*. New York: Harper and Row.
- Dennett, Daniel. 1995. *Darwin's Dangerous Idea: Evolution and the Meanings of Life*. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster.
- Derbyshire, John. 2010. Remarks at a Panel Discussion. University of Pennsylvania Law School,

- April 5, 2010. <http://www.johnderbyshire.com/Opinions/HumanSciences/upennlaw.html>, accessed April 18, 2012.
- Ferguson, Niall. 1999. Introduction to *Virtual History: Alternatives and Counterfactuals*. New York, NY: Basic Books.
- Gaudian, Martin C. 2010. *Memories of Dachau Concentration Camp Experience — May 1945*. Unpublished manuscript. 12/9/2010.
- Geyer, Michael, and Sheila Fitzpatrick. 2009. *Beyond Totalitarianism: Stalinism and Nazism Compared*. Cambridge, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Glad, John. 2011. *Jewish Eugenics*. Washington, DC: Wooden Shore Publishers.
- Gould, Stephen Jay. 1977. *Ontogeny and Phylogeny*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Jones, J. Sydney. 2002. *Hitler in Vienna, 1907–1913: Clues to the Future*. New York: Cooper Square Press.
- Odd Culture. 2007. Deadly Finnish School Shooting Pekka-Eric Auvinen Goes On Rampage. <http://oddculture.com/odd-crime/deadly-finnish-school-shooting/>, accessed April 18, 2012.
- Nyiszli, Miklos. 2011. *Auschwitz: A Doctor's Eyewitness Account*. New York: Arcade Publishing.
- Phillips, Stone. 2006. *Inside Evil: Serial Killers Jeffrey Dahmer & Son of Sam*. New York: NBC News. This is the edited DVD version of the show aired on November 29, 1994.
- Piotrowski, Tadeusz. 1998. *Poland's Holocaust: Ethnic Strife, Collaboration with Occupying Forces and Genocide in the Second Republic, 1918–1947*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company.
- Ratcliff, Roy, with Lindy Adams. 2006. *Dark Journey Deep Grace*. Abilene, TX: Leafwood Publishers.
- Sebastian, Sharon, and Raymond Bohlin, 2009. *Darwin's Racists. Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*. College Station, TX: VBW Publishing.
- Sewell, Dennis. 2009. *The Political Gene: How Darwin's Ideas Changed Politics*. London: Picador.
- Thornhill, Randy, and Craig T. Palmer. 2000. *A Natural History of Rape: Biological Bases of Sexual Coercion*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Williams, David. 2007. YouTube Massacre: Schoolboy Gunman Posts Threat on the Internet Then Kills Eight. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-492268/YouTube-massacre-Schoolboy-gunman-posts-threat-internet-kills-eight.html>, accessed April 18, 2012, and <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-492268/YouTube-massacre-Schoolboy-gunman-posts-threat-internet-kills-eight.html#ixzz10B9Arehw>, accessed April 18, 2012.