

Foreword:

This essay was designed to illustrate the relationship between certain elements within Anthropology and the world wide Eugenics movement. The latter was a powerful social movement which influenced public policy on a national and international scale and which eventually led to extreme violations of basic human rights. The modern discipline of Anthropology has tended to ignore this aspect of the history of the Twentieth Century, along with Sociology, Psychology, Medicine and Biology. The essay is a work in progress, with additional chapters to be filled in as time permits. Students are encouraged to examine the end notes where more information as to the sources of information and additional materials are to be found. The end notes are gathered at the conclusion of the various sections. **Bold and/or Italics** are employed to designate materials that are quotes or are heavily paraphrased. Research materials from libraries and collections in different parts of the country and the world were utilized. Many are what historians identify as primary source materials, in that original documents including correspondence, government documents, pamphlets, essays and articles are included. (An earlier web version lost some of the formatting...for bold text).

The essay was not designed to detract from the modern discipline of Cultural Anthropology. It is an overview as to how concepts like Social Darwinism and Cultural Evolution were used for a variety of insidious purposes toward the end of the 19th Century and during the first 45 years of the 20th Century. Academic disciplines are created by people who create a body of knowledge and information. Both the academic disciplines and the academics within them are influenced by popular culture and ideology. There is no such thing as a discipline that is not influenced in part by these elements, whether it is the overt perspective that is obvious or whether it is the silent elimination of viewpoints which don't conform to what a discipline or society allows at any one point in time. It is important for students to view the reality of how disciplines change, **some of the content is extremely disturbing in that a number of the citations were selected to illustrate the harsh reality of the time.** After reviewing the essay, it is hoped that students will develop an appreciation for those who stood up against popular culture, ideology, disciplinary orthodoxy and who toiled to change the Social Sciences and to move them towards the modern perspective.

... heredity plays a minor or exceedingly small role, it is learned behavior that is primarily responsible for human behavior. Social Systems, Social Structure and Social Stratification create both opportunities and limitations which have a tremendous impact upon the lives of both the individual and Society. In the debate regarding nature vs. nurture, it is apparent that 'nurture' and learned behavior for most social scientists today... are the key elements which are used to explain behavior.