

BREEDING CONTEMPT



THE HISTORY OF COERCED STERILIZATION
IN THE UNITED STATES

MARK A. LARGENT

Breeding Contempt The History Of Coerced Sterilization In The United States

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Breeding Contempt The History Of Coerced Sterilization In The United States:

Breeding Contempt Mark A. Largent, 2011 From the Publisher Most closely associated today with the Nazis and World War II atrocities eugenics is sometimes described as a government orchestrated breeding program other times as a pseudo science and often as the first step leading to genocide Less frequently is it depicted as a movement having links to America a nation that has historically prided itself for its scientific rationality But eugenics does have a history in the United States a history that is largely the story of biologist Charles Davenport Davenport who led the Eugenics Records Office in the late nineteenth century provided physicians social scientists and lawmakers with the scientific data and authority that enabled them to coercively sterilize men and women who were thought to be socially deviant unfit to pass on their genes and unable to raise healthy children Moreover Mark A Largent shows how even in modern times remnants of eugenics philosophies persist in this country as certain public figures advocate a brand of birth control such as progesterone shots for male criminals that are only steps away from the castrations that were once performed *Sterilized by the State* Randall Hansen, Desmond King, 2013-08-26 This book is the first comprehensive analysis of eugenics in North America focused on the second half of the twentieth century Based on new research Randall Hansen and Desmond King show why eugenic sterilization policies persisted after the 1940s in the United States and Canada Through extensive archival research King and Hansen show how both superintendents at homes for the feeble-minded and pro sterilization advocates repositioned themselves after 1945 to avoid the taint of Nazi eugenics Drawing on interviews with victims of sterilization and primary documents this book traces the post 1940s development of eugenic policy and shows that both eugenic arguments and committed eugenicists informed population welfare and birth control policy in postwar America In providing revisionist histories of the choice movement the anti population growth movement and the Great Society programs this book contributes to public policy and political and intellectual history *The Pseudoscience Wars* Michael D. Gordin, 2024-05-31 Properly analyzed the collective mythological and religious writings of humanity reveal that around 1500 BC a comet swept perilously close to Earth triggering widespread natural disasters and threatening the destruction of all life before settling into solar orbit as Venus our nearest planetary neighbor Sound implausible Well from 1950 until the late 1970s a huge number of people begged to differ as they devoured Immanuel Velikovsky's major best seller *Worlds in Collision* insisting that perhaps this polymathic thinker held the key to a new science and a new history Scientists on the other hand assaulted Velikovsky's book his followers and his press mercilessly from the get go In *The Pseudoscience Wars* Michael D Gordin resurrects the largely forgotten figure of Velikovsky and uses his strange career and surprisingly influential writings to explore the changing definitions of the line that separates legitimate scientific inquiry from what is deemed bunk and to show how vital this question remains to us today Drawing on a wealth of previously unpublished material from Velikovsky's personal archives Gordin presents a behind the scenes history of the writer's career from his initial burst of success through his

growing influence on the counterculture heated public battles with such luminaries as Carl Sagan and eventual eclipse Along the way he offers fascinating glimpses into the histories and effects of other fringe doctrines including creationism Lysenkoism parapsychology and more all of which have surprising connections to Velikovsky's theories Science today is hardly universally secure and scientists seem themselves beset by critics denialists and those they label pseudoscientists as seen all too clearly in battles over evolution and climate change The Pseudoscience Wars simultaneously reveals the surprising Cold War roots of our contemporary dilemma and points readers to a different approach to drawing the line between knowledge and nonsense

Mixing Races Paul Lawrence Farber, 2021-04-27 Traces both historically and sociologically the changing attitudes on race mixing miscegenation in western culture clear well written and useful Journal of the History of Biology This book explores changing American views of race mixing in the twentieth century showing how new scientific ideas transformed accepted notions of race and how those ideas played out on college campuses in the 1960s In the 1930s it was not unusual for medical experts to caution against miscegenation or race mixing espousing the common opinion that it would produce biologically dysfunctional offspring By the 1960s the scientific community roundly refuted this theory Paul Lawrence Farber traces this revolutionary shift in scientific thought explaining how developments in modern population biology genetics and anthropology proved that opposition to race mixing was a social prejudice with no justification in scientific knowledge In the 1960s this new knowledge helped to change attitudes toward race and discrimination especially among college students Their embrace of social integration caused tension on campuses across the country Students rebelled against administrative interference in their private lives and university regulations against interracial dating became a flashpoint in the campus revolts that revolutionized American educational institutions Farber's provocative study is a personal one featuring interviews with mixed race couples and stories from the author's student years at the University of Pittsburgh As such *Mixing Races* offers a unique perspective on how contentious debates taking place on college campuses reflected radical shifts in race relations in the larger society A fascinating look at how evolutionary science has changed alongside social beliefs Midwest Book Review Will open the dialogue about social barriers and group identities Essential Choice

Almost Worthy Brent Ruswick, 2012-12-17 A history and analysis of scientific charity organizations that arose in late nineteenth century America In the 1880s social reform leaders warned that the unworthy poor were taking charitable relief intended for the truly deserving Armed with statistics and confused notions of evolution these scientific charity reformers founded organizations intent on limiting access to relief by the most morally biologically and economically unfit Brent Ruswick examines a prominent national organization for scientific social reform and poor relief in Indianapolis in order to understand how these new theories of poverty gave birth to new programs to assist the poor Ruswick's well researched monograph traces the history of the charity organization society in the US from its origins in the Gilded Age to its merging with social work in the Progressive Era Recommended Choice This study provides a welcome insight into the inner workings

of charity organization societies and their drive to eliminate poverty Nonprofit some possibly fruitful hypotheses about what to make of changes in COS approaches over time thoughtful new propositions about the relationship between scientific charity and eugenics including some charity reformers apparent remorse and a fresh new mini biography of Oscar McCulloch interspersed throughout H SHGAPE Brent Ruswick wants to put the science back into scientific charity He argues that the essence of organized charity was not its class prejudices and censorious attitude toward the poor but rather its belief that systematic evidence gathering could serve to improve the quality of charity work and public policy American Historical Review Volume 119 Issue 4 October 2014 Science and the State John Gascoigne, 2019-03-21 The first historical overview of the partnership between science and the state from the Scientific Revolution to World War II **The Species Maker** Kristin Johnson, 2021-10-26 An extensively researched novel about the role of science in modern life set against the backdrop of the 1925 Scopes Trial The Emergence of Trans Ruth Pearce, Igi Moon, Kat Gupta, Deborah Lynn Steinberg, 2019-08-05 This book represents the vanguard of new work in the rapidly growing arena of Trans Studies Thematically organised it brings together studies from an international cross disciplinary range of contributors to address a range of questions pertinent to the emergence of trans lives and discourses Examining the ways in which the emergence of trans challenges develops and extends understandings of gender and reconfigures everyday lives it asks how trans lives and discourses articulate and contest with issues of rights education and popular common sense With attention to the question of how trans has shaped and been shaped by new modes of social action and networking The Emergence of Trans also explores what the proliferation of trans representation across multiple media forms and public discourse suggests about the wider cultural moment and considers the challenges presented for health care social policy gender and sexuality theory and everyday articulations of identity As such it will appeal to scholars and students of gender and sexuality studies as well as activists professionals and individuals interested in trans lives and discourses **Just and Righteous Causes** James L. Moses, 2018-12-01 Winner 2019 Booker Worthen Prize from the Central Arkansas Library System A dedicated advocate for social justice long before the term entered everyday usage Rabbi Ira Sanders began striving against the Jim Crow system soon after he arrived in Little Rock from New York in 1926 Sanders who led Little Rock's Temple B'nai Israel for nearly forty years was a trained social worker as well as a rabbi and his career as a dynamic religious and community leader in Little Rock spanned the traumas of the Great Depression World War II and the Holocaust and the social and racial struggles of the 1950s and 1960s Just and Righteous Causes a full biographical study of this bold social activist rabbi examines how Sanders expertly navigated the intersections of race religion and gender to advocate for a more just society It joins a growing body of literature about the lives and histories of Southern rabbis deftly balancing scholarly and narrative tones to provide a personal look into the complicated position of the Southern rabbi and the Jewish community throughout the political struggles of the twentieth century South **Eugenics at the Edges of Empire** Diane B. Paul, John Stenhouse, Hamish G.

Spencer, 2017-11-16 This volume explores the history of eugenics in four Dominions of the British Empire New Zealand Australia Canada and South Africa These self governing colonies reshaped ideas absorbed from the metropole in accord with local conditions and ideals Compared to Britain and the US Germany and Scandinavia their orientation was generally less hereditarian and more populist and agrarian It also reflected the view that these young and enterprising societies could potentially show Britain the way if they were protected from internal and external threat This volume contributes to the increasingly comparative and international literature on the history of eugenics and to several ongoing historiographic debates especially around issues of race As white settler societies questions related to racial mixing and purity were inescapable and a notable contribution of this volume is its attention to Indigenous populations both as targets and on occasion agents of eugenic ideology

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