

ON THE OTHER HAND

By LOUISE P. DUMETZ
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

NOT SO LONG ago, a popular movie story plot was one where a beautiful romance was confronted with the shocking revelation that a parent of one of the lovers had been insane.

Sometimes, as in "Arsenic and Old Lace," a happy ending prevailed when a subsequent revelation disclosed that the kinship was by adoption, not blood.

Then, for a time, the movies no longer looked askance at a person whose relatives were psychotic. Insanity was regarded as being more environmental than hereditary. Having a nutty relative didn't make you an object of suspicious conjecture. You could be an all right person even though your father or your sister was a little off.

THIS STILL may be the prevailing view, but whether mental aberrations are environmental or hereditary, there are many who contend that only a thin line divides the psychotic individual from the genius.

The theory is that anybody who is terribly bright is also a little nuts. Should you subscribe to this particular theory, you will be ready to rise in violent indignation to reject the suggestion of two midwestern scientists.

The scientists, Profs. William S. Loughlin, University of Wisconsin, and Benson E. Ginsberg, University of Chicago, recently presented a revolutionary proposal to the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE TWO distinguished gentlemen suggested that special "genius" factories be developed, where particular talented individuals would meet and mate. They called their proposal "emancipation proclamation for the human species."

This mechanical matchmaking, according to their theory, would bring scattered desirable genes together in order to "re-package" the world population. Repacking would allow a mobilization of favorable genes (the cell molecules which transmit traits from one generation to another.)

The trouble is, when you get all these geniuses together and pair them off suppose they don't like each other? Then what? It would seem that any temperamental lady genius who was forced to have a child by an unacceptable male genius might go right over the edge. Wouldn't this affect the offspring?

AND, WORKING on the hereditary theory, wouldn't you be compounding the tendency toward erratic behavior said to be found in geniuses if you doubled those doses of genius genes? Isn't there a good chance the offspring might be more than a little nutty though admittedly more than a little bright?

Loughlin and Ginsberg are certainly revolutionary but if their proposal is made a way of life we'll probably see some developments in human intelligence and human behavior that no one even contemplated.

MADISON CAPTURES GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNEY



'67 Champions of the Doolittle Center Sponsored Basketball Tournament for elementary school girls--Madison School players pictured are (bottom row l-r) Miss Marie Parise, Peggy Carpenter, Jackie Smith, Debra Hall, Cynthia Wilson, Shirley Ratliff, Debra White, Ramona Hall, Elvia Collins, Ester Logan, and Mrs. Sara Besser... (Top row l-r) Gwen Jernigan, Denese Jackson, Debra Scott, Maxine Davis, Joan Patterson, Dolly Hawkins, Cecilia Quabner, Brenda Myers, and Patricia Watkins.

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