

Blame Evolution for our distress

Intro

Most people are convinced that the world is going to hell. We have less and less freedom. Life is becoming less pleasant. We have financial worries. Getting married in raising children is more and more difficult.

We almost always blame somebody or something. Bill Gates, Donald Trump, George Soros and Anthony Fauci are at the top of the list. The greedy capitalists. The welfare moochers. The weak willed people who accept whatever the government throws at them.

What is evolution?

I think it is evolution. We evolved to be this way. The Internet says "Biological evolution is defined as change in the heritable characteristics of a population over succeeding generations. In more technical terms, evolution is defined as change in the gene pool of a population, measurable as changes in allele frequencies in a population."

Our numbers are decreasing

Evolution is defined as the result of natural selection. In our case you might call it natural deselection. We, the traditional inhabitants of Northeast Asian and European-descended countries, do not have enough children to reproduce ourselves. In places like South Korea and Japan they are having only half enough. Without immigration their population will shrink by half every generation. We in Ukraine are a little bit better off – we shrink by only 3/8 per generation. All these groups are selecting ourselves for oblivion.

Less Intelligent having children

Evolution is affected by which fraction of our population is having children. Recently it has been the less capable. Smart people don't, dumb people do. So far our societies have been rich enough to support the children of the more slow-witted, with remedial education, welfare, employment preferences, and incarceration as a last alternative.

Edward Dutton in [At Our Wits End - Why We're Becoming Less Intelligent and What it Means for the Future](#) projects that the average intelligence of society has fallen about 15 points since the Industrial Revolution. We won't see it on any IQ test – they are re-centered at 100 for every generation. But what people can do – the complexity of what they read and write, the problems schoolchildren can solve – it is going down. The National Longitudinal Study of Youth, PISA test results, SAT and ACT measures of preparedness for college have all been declining over time.

Immigration

The dimwits outbreeding the smart is only one factor. Consider the "frequency of alleles in a population." Our populations are being changed by massive immigration. The percentage of alleles from historical European populations is shrinking, while the percentage from South Asian, American Indian and African populations is increasing.

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Mutations

Evolution has always been driven by spontaneous mutations that arise from bombardment by radiation and from copying errors. These are still present. In fact, they are probably increasing due to artificial mutations. In plants and animals these are brought about by genetic engineering. Humans are using a new breed of vaccines, mRNA, that permanently alter our DNA. Our genome suffers more mutations from radiation, especially from 5G wireless and chemicals from pesticides and elsewhere. Dr. Mercola writes that we are subjected to one quintillion times (10^{18}) more radiation (albeit non-ionizing – radio frequency, not atomic decay) than our ancestors of 100 years ago.

Cleansing effect of natural selection

As Dutton (again) writes in [Spiteful Mutants: Evolution, Sexuality, Religion, and Politics in the 21st Century](#), the cleansing effect of evolution has not been in operation for two centuries. It used to be that those whose genetic makeup was unfit to be passed along did not get the opportunity to do so. Individuals who had serious physical defects such as hemophilia or aberrant personalities simply did not breed. They could not find mates. Without competent parents, the children they may have borne did not make it to adulthood. Now, whatever their defects, most children will live to adulthood and pass whatever defects they may have on to the next generation.

Especially for humans, evolution is more than a question of our physical makeup. Our temperaments and our behavior evolve hand-in-hand with our genome.

Pace of evolution

We think of evolutionary time in terms of millions of years – dinosaurs – but even our physical nature has changed radically. Blue eyes and lactose tolerance date back just to the dawn of agriculture.

Behavior vs. body characteristic

The few hundred years leading up to the Industrial Revolution – and 84% of the human genome controls the brain rather than the body – witnessed dramatic changes in behavior.- Crime went way down, literacy went way up, and we were very inventive. The same Edward Dutton says our intelligence may have risen 15 points over this time. Smart people survived and had more children.

Our inventiveness evolved. It took two million years to progress from discovering fire and making simple chipped rock knives to compound tools (hafted axes, rock-tipped spears and arrows), then a few tens of thousands more to start making boats, clothes, wheels and using metal. From that point on every century has brought significant inventions.

Evolving nature of inventions

Needs

Most innovations prior to the Industrial Revolution, and continuing through the 19th century, satisfied fundamental human needs: food and water, energy, transport, housing and sanitation. These were the basis of the great fortunes amassed by Carnegie, Rockefeller, Harriman and Edison

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Wants

In the 20th century the focus evolved from needs to wants. Fortunes were made in tobacco, which satisfies no natural need. Neither does advertising, which promoted its widespread use. The fortune behind President John F. Kennedy was made from smuggling alcohol. Donald Trump's comes from resorts and gambling. Huge fortunes were built in the entertainment industry – movies, then radio and television. The fashion and cosmetics industries catered to women's wants, not just covering their bodies.

Artificial needs and wants

The 21st century focus has been on artificial, unhealthy needs. Entrepreneurs have aroused a desire for degrading video and music they could enjoy on ubiquitous portable devices. So-called health professionals have been advocating childhood vaccines to appear linked to autism and other disorders. The pharmaceutical industry's kill shot has been Covid. The disease was developed in a laboratory. The so-called cure was largely prepared in advance of the release of the disease. The manufacturers corrupted and coopted responsible government authorities throughout the world to receive approval. They hustled to governments to sign contracts for billions of dollars worth of the so-called vaccines.

It is becoming clear, in retrospect, that the game plan was developed over decades, selling governments and the public dangerous, unnecessary and ineffective vaccines, AIDS medications, anti-depressants, opioids, blood pressure and indigestion medicines. Little money remains in satisfying real needs. Entrepreneurs are resorting to creating artificial, dangerous needs. They propagandize, advertise and gaslight us to accept that their dubious offerings are needed.

Evolving interpersonal relationships

Personal bonds – F2F

Society used to be held together by personal trust. Human bonds were the glue. My parents' professional connections from the 1940s included their banker, Mr. Moldenchart, at the Ashby Avenue branch of Bank of America. Our family doctor, William Marsh, was also on Ashby Avenue, and our dentist Dr. Dakin in the 12-story American Trust Building, tallest in Berkeley. These men held our family records and knew our business. The relationships were strong.

Electronic bonds

Computers caused human behavior to evolve. Starting in the 1930s, IBM's electronic accounting machines enabled banks, insurance companies and Social Security to competently manage money for people known only through machine-readable information. Gasoline company and Diner's Club credit cards emerged in the '50s, to be subsumed into BankAmericard (now Visa) and American Express in the '60s when computers would support the transition.

Evolutionary response

Humans adapted, learning to please algorithms instead of people. SATs, mortgage applications, merit raise examinations, etc. We are more isolated than ever, a collection of social security, credit card and passport numbers, floating in cyberspace with associated biometric data. Through a number of mechanisms, known and unknown, some certainly genetic and hence evolutionary, we have diminished levels of religious belief, libido and even sperm counts.

Evolution of ethics

Evolution has almost erased the in-group out-group ethics that characterized primates throughout our evolutionary history. Changes to societal mores and almost certainly the psychological makeup dictated by our genome have made us more likely to accept strangers. We Europeans can even exhibit what a book title calls Pathological Altruism. We venerate the other to our own detriment.

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Human societies used to regard themselves as superorganisms. The individual was finite, bounded in ability and time, but his society eternal and capable of endless growth. We felt we were part of a greater enterprise, be it the Christian religion, Western civilization, the Irish nation or whatever. This is no longer the case. We are all pragmatists, rooted in reality, not feeling ourselves part of anything bigger.

As isolated individuals we feel no compulsion to invest in children, or bring those we do have up to carry on our culture.

This speech is still in search of a conclusion. I'm posting this just to check out SubStack's ability to embed an attachment. Your feedback is welcome over the week before I deliver the speech.