# RACE, EVOLUTION AND BEHAVIOR:

## The RACES of MEN



A Life History Perspective

## RACE, EVOLUTION, AND BEHAVIOR:

## [Part 6]

## **A Life History Perspective**

2nd Special Abridged Edition



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## **6: Life History Theory**

The theory of r-K life histories explains the worldwide three-way pattern in race differences. The r-strategy means being very sexually active and having many offspring. The K-strategy means having fewer offspring, but with both mother and father giving them more care. Humans are the most K strategists of all species. Among humans, Orientals follow the most K-strategy, Blacks the most r-strategy, and Whites fall in between.

The previous chapters showed that there are important race differences in brain size, hormone levels, even bone and tooth development, as well as sexual behavior, aggression, and crime. The three-way pattern in which the races differ — Orientals at one end, Blacks at the other, and Whites in between — is true all around the world. A look at history shows that the race differences we see today were also seen in the past.

Why do the races differ? Of course, poverty, nutrition, and cultural factors are important. But so too are the genes. Culture theory alone cannot explain all the findings.

#### *r-K* Life History Theory

Harvard University biologist E.O. Wilson was the first to use the term *r*-*K Life-History Theory.* He used it to explain population change in plants and animals. I have applied it to the human races.

A life-history is a genetically-organized group of traits that have evolved together to meet the trials of life — survival, growth, and reproduction. For our purposes, r is a term in Wilson's equation that stands for the natural rate of reproduction (the number of offspring). The symbol K stands for the amount of care parents give to insure that their offspring survive. Plants and animals have different life history strategies. Some are more r and others are relatively more K.

The *r* and *K* strategists differ in the number of eggs they produce. The r-strategists are like machine-gunners. They fire so many shots that at least one of them will hit the target. The r-strategists produce many eggs and sperm, and mate and give birth often. The K-strategists, on the other hand, are like snipers. They put time and effort into a few carefully placed shots. K-strategists give their offspring a lot of care. They work together in getting food and shelter, help their kin, and have complex social systems. That is why the K-strategists need a more complex nervous system and bigger brain, but produce fewer eggs and sperm.

This basic law of evolution links reproductive strategy to intelligence and brain development. The less complex an animal's brain, the greater its reproductive output. The bigger an animal's brain, the longer it takes to reach sexual maturity and the fewer offspring it produces (see **Chart 10**). Oysters, for example, have a nervous system so simple that they lack a true brain. To offset this they produce 500 million eggs a year. In contrast, chimpanzees have large brains but give birth to one baby about every four years.

In different species of plants and animals we find a consistent pattern between these two variables — intelligence and reproductive rate. The number of offspring, the time between births, the amount of care parents give, infant mortality, speed of maturity, life span, even social organization, altruism, and brain size all fit together like pieces of a puzzle. The complete puzzle forms a picture biologists call the *r*-*K* Life History Strategy.

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The r-type life history involves higher levels of reproduction, while the K-type strategy requires greater parental care and use of mental attributes. Since larger brains need more time to be built, all the stages of development are also slowed down. The gestation period for some smaller-brained primates (like lemurs and monkeys) is 18 weeks. But for bigger-brained primates (like chimpanzees and gorillas) it is 33 weeks. Some monkeys have their first pregnancy at the age of nine *months*. Gorillas, which have bigger brains and greater intelligence, have their first pregnancy at ten years.

Monkeys are born with a brain very nearly 100% its adult size, while chimpanzees and gorillas are born with about 60% of adult brain size. Human babies are born with a brain that is less than 30% of its adult size. For the first few months of life, monkeys are better than apes in most tests of sensory-motor behavior. And infant apes are superior to infant humans on these tasks. The r-K relationship is true for different species and also applies to humans.

**Chart 10** shows where various animals fall on the r-K scale. Different species are, of course, only relatively r or K. Rabbits are K-strategists compared to fish. But they are r-strategists compared to primates (monkeys, apes, and humans, who are the best K-strategists among mammals). Humans may be the most K species of all. And some humans are better K-strategists than others.

**Chart 11** lists traits typical of r and K reproductive strategies. Every species and every race has a certain life history that we can describe in terms of r-K. The position of each species (or race) on the r-K scale shows the strategy that gave its ancestors the best chance to survive in their habitat.

**Chart 12** shows the life phases and gestation times (conception to birth) for six different primates. They show a scale of increasing K, from lemur to macaque, to gibbon, to chimp, to early humans, to modern humans. Each step in the scale means that the species puts more time and energy into caring for its young and insuring their survival. Each step also means not having as many offspring. Note the different sizes of each of the phases for the different species in **Chart 12.** Only humans have the post reproductive (i.e., after menopause) phase.

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#### Chart 11 Some Life-History Differences Between r-Strategists and K-Strategists r-strategist K-strategist **Family characteristics** Large litter size Small litter size Short birth spacing Long birth spacing Many offspring Few offspring High infant mortality Low infant mortality Little parental care Much parental care Individual characteristics Slow maturation Rapid maturation Early sexual reproduction Delayed sexual reproduction Short life Long life High reproductive effort Low reproductive effort High energy utilization Efficient energy utilization Smaller brains Larger brains Population characteristics Opportunistic exploiters Consistent exploiters Dispersing colonizers Stable occupiers Variable population size Stable population size Weak competition Strong competition Social system characteristics Low social organization High social organization Low altruism High altruism Source: Unabridged edition, Race, Evolution, and Behavior (p. 203).

The differences in *r*-*K* strategies that exist even in primates are important. A female lemur is an r- strategist for a primate. She produces her first offspring at nine months and has a life expectancy of only 15 years. A female gorilla is a K-strategist. She has her first pregnancy at about age 10 years and can expect to live to the age of

40. The lemur may mature, have a number of young, and die before the gorilla has her first baby.

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#### Race Differences and *r-K* Strategies

How do the three races fall along the r-K scale? Look back at the pattern of racial differences in **Chart 1** (page 19). Compare them to the r-K traits in **Chart 11** (page 77). Orientals are the most K, Blacks are the most r, and Whites fall in between.

#### Being more r means:

\* shorter gestation periods

\* earlier physical maturation (muscular control, bone and dental development)

\* smaller brains

\* earlier puberty (age at first menstruation, first intercourse, first pregnancy)

\* more developed primary sexual characteristics (size of penis, vagina, testes, ovaries)

\* more developed secondary sexual characteristics (voice, muscularity, buttocks, breasts)

\* more biological than social control of behavior (length of menstrual cycle, periodicity of sexual response, predictability of life history from start of puberty)

\* higher levels of sex hormones (testosterone, gonadotropins, follicle stimulating hormone)

\* higher levels of individuality (lower law abidingness)

\* more permissive sexual attitudes

\* higher intercourse frequencies (premarital, marital, extramarital)

\* weaker pair bonds

\* more siblings

\* higher rates of child neglect and abandonment

\* greater frequency of disease

\* shorter life expectancy

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#### **Testosterone — The Master Switch?**

Testosterone may be a master switch that sets the position of the races on the r-K scale. We know that this male sex hormone affects selfconcept, temperament, sexuality, aggression and altruism. It controls the development of muscles and the deepening of the voice. It can also contribute to aggression and problem behavior. A study of over 4,000 military veterans found high testosterone levels predicted greater criminality, alcohol and drug abuse, military misconduct, and having many sex partners.

We can now see how different testosterone levels among the three races might explain the r-K behavioral differences. With higher testosterone levels, Blacks are more likely to put time and energy into having offspring. On the other hand, Asians and Whites with lower testosterone levels put more time and energy into caring for a few

offspring and making long term plans. But, how did this happen? And why? For the answers we must turn to human origins and the Out-of-Africa theory of racial evolution.

#### Conclusion

r-K Life History Theory, a basic principle of modern evolutionary biology, explains the three- way pattern of differences in brain size, IQ, and behavior, described earlier. Every species of plant or animal can be placed on the r-K scale. The r end of the scale means having more offspring, maturing earlier, having smaller brains and providing less parental care. The K end of the scale means having fewer offspring, maturing later, having larger brains, and providing more parental care. Humans are the most K species of all. Among humans, Orientals are the most K, Blacks the most r, and Whites fall in between.

#### **Additional Readings**

Johanson, D. C. & Edey, M. A. (1981). *Lucy: The Beginnings of Humankind*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Lovejoy, C.O. (1981). The origin of man. *Science*, 211, 341-350.

## Version History & Notes

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### Notes

\* Cover image not in the original document.
\* Page numbers as per original document.
\* Some charts and tables have been recreated for clarity.

Knowledge is Power in Our Struggle for Racial Survival

(Information that should be shared with as many of our people as possible — do your part to counter Jewish control of the mainstream media — pass it on and spread the word) ... Val Koinen at <u>KOINEN'S</u> <u>CORNER</u>

Note: This document is available at:

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