

SURVIVAL RACE

I hope you're not offended by this story. But I want to tell you an experience I had when I was in junior high.

One day in our art class, a group of white guys painted a black kid white. I know, it's terrible, and I'm sorry. Of course our teacher went ballistic, screaming about how what they did was so demeaning. And it was. But it was interesting, because the black kid, who was the class clown, had encouraged the prank. He said, "No biggy, Mrs. whatever-her-name-was, we're just speeding up the evolutionary process." She didn't think it was funny. And it wasn't. But the painted kid was just voicing the horrific implications of the evolutionary theory we were all being taught in the class before hers.

Actually, not too many people stop to think through the implications of the evolutionary theory. Have you taken a recent look at Charles Darwin's famous book that started it all? You know the one. *The Origin of Species*. And are you aware of the full original title Darwin gave his book? Maybe in our current politically correct culture the complete title is too offensive to put right on the cover. But like it or not, here's the whole title. Ready?

On The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life.

What?

Favored Races?

Yeah, Favored Races!

Darwin made certain that the essence of his theory was front and center. Let's break it down.

First we see that the book is about origins. Darwin is attempting to inform us where we came from. According to him, our existence is a purely accidental naturalistic phenomenon.

Then he moves into the process by which he believed we came into existence: "By Means of Natural Selection." That simply means that the strong survive and the weak don't, also described by Darwin as, "the survival of the fittest." Every creature is in competition for survival with all others. It's "natural," Darwin says, that those with stronger traits will conquer those with weaker traits. The survivors will then breed, thus preserving and strengthening the traits most suited for survival. Things get gradually better as the weak are slaughtered and the strong survive to propagate.

So evolution is dependent on the elimination of the weak. In fact, to the degree that any of the weak survive, the evolutionary process will be hindered. In this sense, competition and conquest are good for the advancement

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of life. The highest law is self-preservation, and the brutal cycle of killing is merely an amoral (neither right or wrong) necessity.

Which brings us back to my art class, and to the final part of Darwin's title. It's a mouth full for a book title, but get these words:

The Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life.

The idea is so heavy that even those who believe the theory see the racist implications and cringe. And yet, no explanation can alter what Darwin means when he speaks of "favored races." Sure, Darwin used the word "races" to refer to all life forms, both vegetable and animal, but that does not lessen the racist implications because the human species was included in Darwin's theory. The theory of evolution unavoidably teaches that some human races are favored above others.

It should come as no surprise, then, that Darwin's cousin and disciple, Sir Francis Galton, was the father of modern "eugenics," which is the Greek word for "wellborn." Taking Darwin's evolutionary theory to its logical conclusion, Galton taught that "the gifted," or more highly evolved humans, should treat the less favored among us with "kindness"—get this—"so long as they" maintain "celibacy." He went on to say, "If these continued to procreate children inferior in moral, intellectual and physical qualities, it is easy to believe the time may come when such persons would be considered as enemies of the state" (Quoted in Peter and Jean Medawar, *Aristotle to Zoos*, p. 87).

If Darwin was right,
which ones are
the "favored races"?

Wow!

People considered as "enemies of the state" because they are inferior?

Galton's ideas turned out to be a dark "prophecy" that came true when Nazi eugenics scientists bought into Darwin's "favored races" theory and supervised Hitler's "Final Solution." Millions who were regarded as less evolved than the Aryans were slaughtered with survival-of-the-fittest gusto, and the evolution-educated conscience seems to have felt no guilt. Kill or be killed, and why feel guilty, because, after all, if self-preservation is the highest law, and if the "triumph of the strong over the weak" is simply necessary for the advancement of mankind, well, then, may the best race win!

Which begs the chilling question, If Darwin was right, then which ones are the "favored races"? Which of us are more highly evolved? Which of us are better than the rest of us? The Nazis' thought they were answering the question with their Aryan supremacy ideology and their gas chambers.

The Preservation of Favored Races.

Can you see it on the Barnes and Noble bestseller shelf? Those words are there, after all, in the original title. Like it or not, that is the point of Darwin's theory in all its debasing "glory."

But somehow, I don't think the *Favored Races* title would sell.

The kids in my seventh-grade art class understood the implications of Darwin's theory.

The question is, do we?