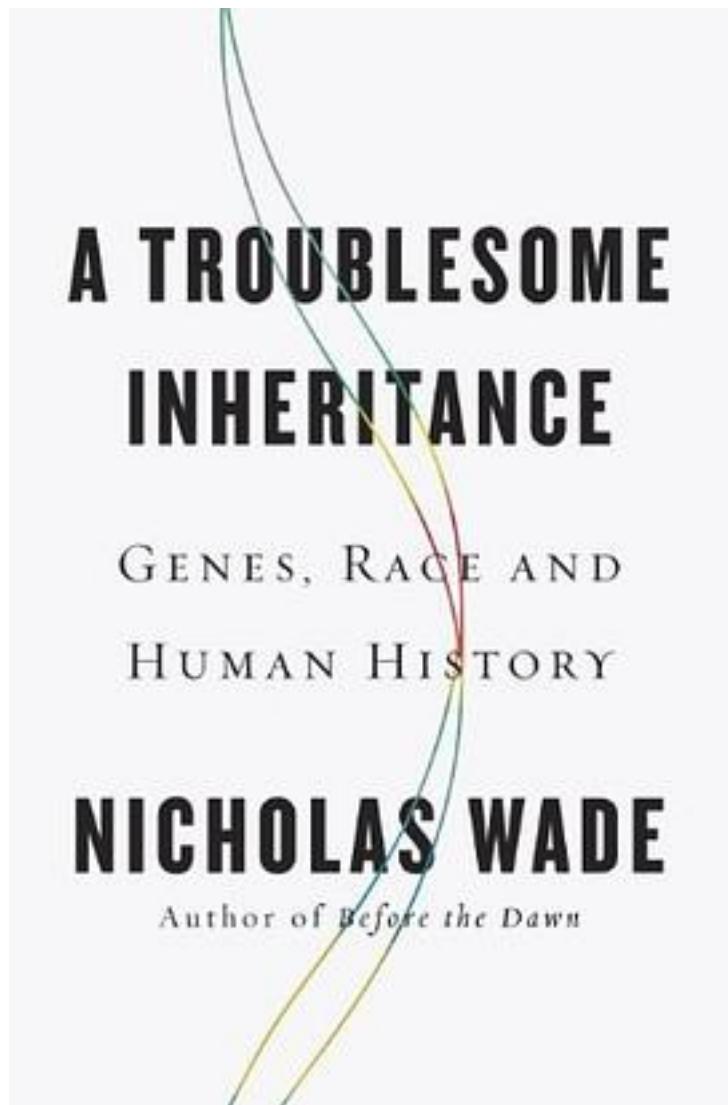


A Troublesome Inheritance



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著者:Nicholas Wade

出版者:Penguin Press

出版时间:2014-5-6

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781594204463

Drawing on startling new evidence from the mapping of the genome, an explosive new account of the genetic basis of race and its role in the human story

Fewer ideas have been more toxic or harmful than the idea of the biological reality of race, and with it the idea that humans of different races are biologically different from one another. For this understandable reason, the idea has been banished from polite academic conversation. Arguing that race is more than just a social construct can get a scholar run out of town, or at least off campus, on a rail. Human evolution, the consensus view insists, ended in prehistory.

Inconveniently, as Nicholas Wade argues in *A Troublesome Inheritance*, the consensus view cannot be right. And in fact, we know that populations have changed in the past few thousand years—to be lactose tolerant, for example, and to survive at high altitudes. Race is not a bright-line distinction; by definition it means that the more human populations are kept apart, the more they evolve their own distinct traits under the selective pressure known as Darwinian evolution. For many thousands of years, most human populations stayed where they were and grew distinct, not just in outward appearance but in deeper senses as well.

Wade, the longtime journalist covering genetic advances for *The New York Times*, draws widely on the work of scientists who have made crucial breakthroughs in establishing the reality of recent human evolution. The most provocative claims in this book involve the genetic basis of human social habits. What we might call middle-class social traits—thrift, docility, nonviolence—have been slowly but surely inculcated genetically within agrarian societies, Wade argues. These “values” obviously had a strong cultural component, but Wade points to evidence that agrarian societies evolved away from hunter-gatherer societies in some crucial respects. Also controversial are his findings regarding the genetic basis of traits we associate with intelligence, such as literacy and numeracy, in certain ethnic populations, including the Chinese and Ashkenazi Jews.

Wade believes deeply in the fundamental equality of all human peoples. He also believes that science is best served by pursuing the truth without fear, and if his mission to arrive at a coherent summa of what the new genetic science does and does not tell us about race and human history leads straight into a minefield, then so be it. This will not be the last word on the subject, but it will begin a powerful and overdue conversation.

作者介绍:

Nicholas Wade received a BA in natural sciences from King’s College, Cambridge. He was the deputy editor of *Nature* magazine in London and then became that journal’s Washington correspondent. He joined *Science* magazine in Washington as a reporter and later moved to *The New York Times*, where he has been an editorial writer, concentrating on issues of defense, space, science, medicine, technology, genetics, molecular biology, the environment, and public policy, a science reporter, and a science editor.

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标签

关于种族

人类学

受争议的一本书

种族

经济学

科普

进化论

人类

评论

校园文化大革命，周围的小将都去造反有理谴责“种族主义”的下午，我看完了这本讲民族的行为和成就很大程度上是基因决定的书。

一半。态度还好，真章工作脑洞略大

其实我是赞同作者观点的，不过目前证据还是薄弱了些

立论没有问题，材料新意不足

把人类行为或者社会行为看成是文化影响下的基因内源的表现从科学上来看也是站不住脚的

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书评

基因大规模更替的三种情况：气候变化、技术和组织革命、战争，其中最重要的是组织革命，即体制的力量。长期的体制固化才会导致基因的大规模定向选择。

气候变化方面：北方民族由于自然条件恶劣，受到的进化压力更大，因此积累了更多的优势
组织革命：体制会逐步改变基因的选...

撰文：H. Allen Orr 翻译：陶小路 首发《东方历史评论》微信公号：ohistory
[人类社会的差异是由基因决定的吗？] 1

科学与科学新闻是两回事。二者各有价值，可做好科学与做好科学新闻所需要的技能却有不同。做科学需要对所谓的事实以及理论一直保持怀疑，做科学新闻则需要将复...

1、主题不错，把基因、社会行为、社会建构联系在一起。但写的不深入，翻来覆去在重复。也许目前阶段没办法说深入，影响社会行为的基因有哪些？个体的社会行为如何影响群体的社会构建？只能提出一个理论，即社会环境（如定居、农业）构成选择条件，影响人群基因（如筛选出低攻击...

这本描述了基因和种族在人类进化和历史里的作用，同意作者的部分观点，例如人类的种族之分，种族在人类历史里逐渐形成，并在不断适应环境中发展出了自己的历史和特征。

后面部分作者提出了理论即人类社会行为也会通过基因进行代代遗传并不断适应环境而发展。整体读下来，这一理...

亚马逊买的纸版书，2016.10.15-10.23，读完，整体来讲不错。书结构：共十章
第二章：种族主义的概念，以及影响其诞生的因素（科学的“诱导”作用）

第三章：人类社会行为的起源 第四章+第五章：基于真凭实据的种族遗传学
第六章-第十章：猜想：人类进化，历史，经济等互相交...

序：尼古拉斯·韦德 (Nicholas Wade)

英国剑桥大学国王学院自然科学学士。现在是自由撰稿人、记者，写了三部关于人类进化的著作：《黎明之前》—用基因技术颠覆史前五万年人类进化史；《信仰本能》—分析宗教行为进化历史；《麻烦的继承者》——探讨种族和遗传之间的关系。...

人类仍在不断进化。人类的祖先来自欧洲，经过了上万年的进化，产生了现在多样的国家和社会。20代可以把狐狸训练成为宠物，20代人以上同样可以让一群人发生很大的倾向变化，这种变化到底是文化还是基因？本书持基因的观点。一个基因的变化，可以让西藏人更加适应高原气候...

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