

Handout I

Quoted below are statements by Luigi Cavalli-Sforza, Richard Lewontin, Leon Kamin and James Flynn, four of the five most prolific and frequently cited opponents of the fact that genetically determined differences in intelligence between races have been decisively proved. (I quote the fifth, Stephen Jay Gould, in Handout II.)

“[To discover] a genetic component in the mean difference in I.Q. between races ... the only approach applicable ... is black children adopted into white homes ... The I.Q.’s of black children adopted into white homes would also have to be compared with those of white children adopted into comparable white homes.”

(W. Bodmer and L. L. Cavalli-Sforza 1970: “Intelligence and Race”, *Scientific American* 223, October, p. 29)

“The only way to answer the question of genetic differences in IQ between groups would be to study adoption across racial and class boundaries.”

(S. Rose, R. Lewontin and L. Kamin, *Not in Our Genes* (1984), p. 127.)

“What, after all, is the whole debate about race and IQ about? Essentially this: what would happen to the mean IQ of American blacks if they found themselves distributed among the range of environments existent in contemporary white America ... I will call this sort of evidence “direct” ... Direct evidence refers to how black and white genes function ... when black children are adopted by white parents. ... Direct evidence has another great advantage. It transcends all the debate about whether IQ tests are fair.”

(J. Flynn, *Race, IQ and Jensen*, 1980 (pp. 73-5). Flynn stresses the primacy of “direct” evidence (trans-racial adoption) because he had to concede that “indirect” evidence (twins, correlations of IQ with socioeconomic status, etc.) unambiguously show that there are significant innate racial differences.)