the inadequate pelvic brims of their mothers. If so, positive correlations which investigators have found between brain weight and intelligence understate the real relationship.

Three factors--increased resort to caesarean section, enlargement of the pelvic brim due to better nutrition, and better obstetrical diagnosis--have reduced the danger of brain damage at birth due to disproportionality between the neonatal cranium and the maternal pelvic brim. What are the consequences of these factors?

(1) They should increase the proportion of large-brained infants who come into the world with their brains intact and undamaged,and decrease the death rates of their mothers.

(2) To the extent that brain size is positively correlated with intelligence and ability, successive generations would be endowed with a congenital advantage.

(3) The benefits will be, and have been, primarily concentrated upon the richer and more modernized nations, and upon that portion of their populations which enjoys adequate nutrition, good public health, and competent obstetric care.

An interesting corollary to the overall relationship between intelligence, brain size, and pelvic brim size is the more specific implication for racial differences in the incidence of brain damage. Negroid women have narrower pelvic brims on average than women of other races, and this is in accordance with the hypothesis that climatic adaptation over hundreds of generations has shaped body types. Denizens of hot climates tend to be "skinny" with narrow torsos and attenuated fingers and toes--in short, they are adapted to achieve efficient heat loss by sweating, and do this with a high surface/volume somatotype. Conversely, races shaped by cold climates, such as the Mongoloid, tend to be structured to conserve heat. Mongoloids tend to be more spherical, since the sphere provides the smallest possible surface-to-mass ratio.

Arthur R. Jensen has elaborated an intriguing hypothesis to account for the higher incidence of brain damage in American blacks than in other groups (even those living in poverty), which he has summarized as follows:

> The idea is this: There are many soft neurological signs of brain damage in black children. (There's quite a large literature on this.) I suggested that one contributing factor might be an incompatibility between the mother's pelvic brim and the neonate's cranial size. African blacks have a shorter gestation period (so do American blacks, but not as short) than Europeans and Asians, and African babies have smaller heads. Also black women have, on average, a smaller pelvic brim. Genes for cranial size, pelvic brim, and length of gestation would, in the course of evolution, become co-adapted, to use Dobzhansky's term, i.e., natural selection would work against incompatibilities. But American blacks are hybrids, and the co-adaptation of genes is broken up. Consequently, there will be a higher incidence of brain/pelvic incompatibility and a higher incidence of birth damage of varying degrees. Also, boys' heads are larger, and this would explain the much higher incidence of craniological signs in black boys than in girls. Blood-type incompatibilities, similar to the Rh factor, may also be a contributor to the higher rates of fetal loss and subtle birth defects affecting the brain. It seems likely that male incompatibilities would be higher in a hybrid population which has not been subjected to the seine of genetic selection for very many generations. Fetal loss, brain damage, etc., for example, have a much higher incidence in upper middle-class American blacks than among the poorest Chinese and Jews. My hypothesis of cranial/pelvic incompatibility is quite speculative, to be sure. But I think it worth investigating by someone in a better position than I am to do this type of research (Personal communication, June 22, 1984).

In conclusion, the evolution of the pelvic brim is a topic with direct relevance to brain size and human intelligence, as well as racial differences in the incidence of brain damage in the U.S. It clearly warrants a good deal more research. However, it appears unlikely such research will be carried out in the United States, Great Britain, or Canada in the foreseeable future given the current direction of physical anthropology in the English-speaking world.

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