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Dean Svend Hylleberg
Det Samfundsvidenskabelige Fakultet
Norde Ringgade
Bygning 327, 3
8000 Aarhus C. Denmark

Dear Professor Hylleberg

I am writing this in my two capacities as a professor of psychology of the University of Cyprus and as President of the newly founded Cyprus University of Technology. May I note here that I am working on the psychology of intellectual development for almost 30 years and I am well aware of the literature concerning gender differences in intelligence. This literature is not clear yet about the nature and size of the differences between the two genders in intelligence. In fact, in my own research, I have always looked for these differences and did not find them most of the times. Therefore, I must say at the outset that I am very sceptical concerning the substance of Professor Nyborg's conclusion that there are differences between the two genders in IQ. Only future research will show if he is right in his findings and conclusions. But I do believe that actual findings and conclusions are beyond the point, because only open academic and scientific discussions between peers and the scientific community at large can show if he is right. Science does not progress by political and administrative actions of the kind taken by your University against Professor Nyborg.

I have been following the case of Professor Nyborg since the beginning because it raises serious issues of academic freedom and practice. Having read the report of the committee appointed by the University to investigate Professor Nyborg's research, I am now fully convinced that your University is seriously violating the principles of academic freedom and the University's obligation to protect the right of its own academic staff to pursue their research and disseminate their findings and scientific opinions independently of or even despite current commonly accepted views or positions of pressure groups. For one thing, it is clear in the report that Nyborg cannot be accused for fraud. There may be questions about some of his manipulations but I wonder if there is anybody who can be found entirely faultless in his manipulations in any field at any time, especially if examined by a committee appointed to locate faults. In fact, this is the substance of science. Differences in practices, interpretations and conclusions are resolved in the open by peers, not by committees or administrative bodies and actions. For another, it is also clear that your University wanted to crucify Nyborg any way, in order to satisfy the demand by pressure groups that his views are banned and ridiculed so that no discussion about the issue is



possible. I am sorry to say that succumbing to political correctness is the modern equivalent of the holy inquisition that burned people at the stake because their views deviated from the theologically acceptable interpretation of the world.

It is distressful that a modern University in a country of the European Union of the 21st century allies with medieval practices that we all thought that are over for good and for ever. I therefore urge your University to reconsider its decisions in concern to Professor Nyborg and fully lift any sanctions against him, in the sake of democracy, science, and human dignity.

May I note that this letter may be published or presented in any public forum.

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Demetriou,
Professor of Psychology, University of Cyprus,
President of the Interim Governing Board,
Cyprus University of Technology

cc

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