

31. August 2006.

Dean Svend Hylleberg at dekan.sam@au.dk

I write in support of Professor Nyborg's work on sex differences in intelligence after having inspected the committee report you have published on your faculty homepage under

http://www.sam.au.dk/forskning/nyborg_report.pdf
http://www.sam.au.dk/forskning/nyborg_oversaettelse_rapport.pdf
http://www.sam.au.dk/forskning/nyborg_oversaettelse_kommissorium.pdf

I advanced the theory that men have a higher average IQ than women by 4-5 IQ points in 1994 and have published eight subsequent papers confirming this. Professor Nyborg is one of several reputable experts in this field who have come to the same conclusion used standard methodology.

I append below a letter I had published in *The Psychologist* (August, 2005), which summarizes this work. I am shocked to learn that Professor Nyborg's peer-reviewed 2005 article in "Personality and Individual Differences" has been post-hoc investigated by a faculty committee. It appears that Hamlet predicted the future " *Something is rotten in the state of Denmark*" and, in particular, at the University of Aarhus.

If you pursue this vendetta you will harm Denmark's reputation as a liberal democracy.

If necessary I am willing to come to Aarhus to testify on Professor Nyborg's behalf.

Richard Lynn

Professor Emeritus of Psychology

University of Ulster

Copy: Rector Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen (rector@au.dk) and helmuthnyborg@msn.com.

Letter published from Richard Lynn in The Psychologist (August, 2005)

You invite views on the question *Are there sex differences in intelligence?* (June, p.354). Up to end of the nineteenth century it was widely believed that men are, at least on average, more intelligent than women. In the twentieth century this view became rejected and it became almost universally asserted by major authorities, including Terman, Spearman, Cattell, Brody, Jensen and Mackintosh, that there is no difference in the average intelligence of men and women.

In 1994 the wheel came full circle when I proposed that the historical view was right. Men have larger brains than women by about 10 per cent and larger brains confer greater brain power, so men must necessarily be on average more intelligent than women. I showed that this is so on any

reasonable definition of intelligence. If intelligence is defined as the IQ on the Wechsler tests, men have obtained higher average means than women on a number of standardisation samples. Men also have higher average IQs than women if intelligence is defined as reasoning ability or as the sum of verbal, reasoning and spatial abilities (Lynn, 1994).

This conclusion was disputed by Mackintosh (1996), who argued that non-verbal reasoning measured by the Progressive Matrices is the best measure of intelligence and that there is no sex difference on this test. To examine this objection I carried out (with the assistance of Paul Irwing) a meta-analysis of studies of sex differences on the Progressive Matrices. We found that among adults the average IQ of men exceeds that of women by approximately 5 IQ points (Lynn and Irwing, 2005). There is no difference among children up to the age of 15.

A consensus paradigm is not easily overthrown no matter how strong the evidence against it, as Galileo famously found, so I have not been surprised to find people are still asserting that there is no sex difference in intelligence, e.g. "the psychometric evidence that there is no sex difference in general ability is overwhelming (Anderson, 2004, p. 829). However, some of those who have examined the evidence have begun to accept my conclusion. The first of these was Hans Eysenck (1998, p.76), who was always open to new ideas. He was followed by Roberto Colom in Madrid who puts the male advantage among 18 year olds at 4.3 IQ points (Colom and Lynn, 2004). Another is Nyborg (2003) in Denmark, who has however contended that I erred in estimating the intelligence advantage of men at 5 IQ points and that the correct figure is 5.55 IQ points. Yet another who has reached the same conclusion is Baron-Cohen (2003) in Cambridge, although he prefers the terminology that men have greater "systematising ability" (aka intelligence: a distinction without a difference). Supportive evidence of a different kind comes from Furnham (2001) who has found that lay people consistently rate their fathers as more intelligent than their mothers, although he has forborne to mention that this happens to be correct.

Richard Lynn

University of Ulster

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