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Jensen

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Letters
Manchester Guardian Weekly
164 Deansgate
Manchester M60 2RR England

Sir, - In a report headlined "Racialism and the IQ gap" (May 1) Adam Raphael quotes a number of my remarks ~~xxxxxthey~~ ~~WERE~~ concerning Dr. Arthur Jensen's studies on the genetics of intelligence. In the context of the recent controversy in the National Academy of Sciences, it might appear that I deplore research on this subject. In my view it would be important for both scientific and human values to learn all that we could about the specific genetic factors that govern intellectual development. I am however quite skeptical about the possibility of unravelling genetic from environmental factors, with presently available methods, and especially in efforts to sort out the differences among racial groups. I would nevertheless support every objective effort to further our knowledge.

What I do deplore are the inflammatory prejudgments about inconclusive and incomplete research that have clouded recent discussions. Besides the harm they do by arousing group resentments, they can only impede further analysis of and solutions to these pressing problems.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics