

Re: Frankfurt School (Re: What does an evolutionist actually believe?)

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- *From:* "Aardvark J. Bandersnatch, MP, BLT, DOA" <someonelse@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 03 Dec 2005 09:27:44 GMT
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"Sylvia Knörr" <Sylvia.Knoerr_NoSpam_@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:dmarijq\\$nv5\\$02\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:dmarijq$nv5$02$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

>

>> Excuse me if I made it sound like a BAD example.

>

> No problem. It could as well be a comprehension problem on MY side. Since

> English isn't my mother tongue, I sometimes miss the subtleties.

At this point, your English is far better than my German ever was. (see below)

> I was just making an

>> example: we tend to mate-preference those who are very similar but with a

>> bit of difference. It's good for the gene pool, which apparently has one

> end

>> that is very shallow.

>

> What does that mean, "one end that is very shallow"?

It was a pun on the word "pool" and two of its meanings, implying that the gene pool is like a swimming pool. Most swimming pools have a shallow end for the young, the old, the weak, and those who've not learned to swim. The gene pool has a shallow end where genetic variety is seriously limited.

>

>> It is interesting, however, that some of the most crowded of people;

>> e.g.,

>> the Japanese, have managed to live without having serious

>> person-to-person

>> violence (aside from the occasional civil war) while less-crowded

> cultures;

>> e.g., America, have on-going problems with p2p violence. The reason, here

>> again, I think, is the underlying cultural sense that the society (the

> band,

>> the group) is more important than the individual. Thus we can see how

>> cultures can become counter-productive at a very basic level, even when

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- > the
- >> tendency and counter-productivity can easily be seen.
- >
- > The Japanese are a "face" culture, for Japanese people it is very
- > important
- > to "save face", and the public display of aggression is one way to LOSE
- > face. So maybe it is not only the group bondages which lead to the high
- > degree of discipline in the Japanese society (as well as several other
- > Asian
- > societies).
- > Japanese have tight rules of etiquette and arrangements just to avoid
- > embarrassing situations. Of course, that's just ONE aspect of the full
- > package of reasons why Eastern and Western societies are quite different.

Let me think about this for a day or two, please.

- >
- >> For which I am grateful.
- >
- > Thanks, I take this for a compliment! :-)

It was meant as such.

- >> BTW, and apropos of nothing -- which day of the calendar is "Bitt und
- >> Bett
- >> Tag"?
- >
- > LOL. You mean "Buß- und Betttag" (literally: day of penance and prayer).
- > It's
- > a Protestant holiday in November (no fixed day), and it used to be a
- > national holiday until the 90ies, but now it's no longer work free (except
- > in Saxony). Like most holidays in November, it is a "quiet" holiday, when
- > people are expected to observe meditation and spiritual purification.
- > This year it was November 16th.
- > P.S: "Bitt und Bett Tag" would literally mean "day of petition and bed"
- > :-))

It's been some thirty years since I've written or spoken German at all. My skills are seriously deteriorated.

Then again, if you knew my second ex-wife, you could see how "petition" and "bed" might actually go together. ;>

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• *Follow-Ups:*

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◇ From: Sylvia Knörr

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