

## SOME COMMENTS ON THE GOUGH SOCIALIZATION SCALE<sup>1</sup>

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*Summary.*—It is suggested that Gough may have underestimated the evidence relating to racial differences on his socialization scale and its heritability.

Gough (4) has summarized published evidence on his So Scale to show that it does in fact measure socialization. On two points he seems to find evidence to contradict reasonable deductions. He argues that there is no evidence for black-white differences (p. 674), while there is a large body of evidence showing black groups far more likely than white groups to commit crimes (7). But Gough did not point out that equal So scores were only obtained in special groups equated for criminality such as prison inmates or for good socialization such as college students. One would need an unselected, random population sample to substantiate his point. Comparatively speaking, fewer black persons are college students, and many are in penal institutions.

Gough (4) also argues that published data argue for a "low probability of a genetic etiology" (p. 658). This seems odd, given that criminality has been shown in many studies to have quite a high heritability (2). Looking at the papers cited by Gough, we find Falconer heritability of .40 (adolescents) and .46 (adults); the latter is not significant because the number of twins was small (42 pairs only) (1). Horn, *et al.* (5) gave heritabilities for three groups of .76, .36, and .46, with the first having an unduly low DZ correlation suggesting epistasis. In the Gottesman (3) study, heritability of So was only .32, but statistically significant. Loehlin and Nichols (6) found values of .74 for males and .14 for females, with an appreciable component of shared environment. Over-all, it is difficult to deny that there is strong evidence for a heritability of So of around .40, with a possible epistasis component. Thus on both points Gough's So scale is in better agreement with expectation than his own account would lead one to suspect.

### REFERENCES

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