

On Sociobiology

By Mila D. Aguilar

September 13, 2000

The theory of Sociobiology hews to the teachings of the Judeo-Christian Bible. The Hebrew Scriptures say that the sins of the first generation are visited upon the second and the third generations. While the Hebrew Scriptures are not clear as to how this happens, Sociobiology works out the process: if a genetic change does not occur in the offspring of the first sinners to accommodate that first sin in their DNA, certainly a change in the cultural memes does, making it possible for all those particular sins to be passed on!

Sociobiology, in fact, accounts for what happened to Adam and Eve. When the two creatures were tempted with a taste of the Tree of Knowledge (as, according to most interpretations, that was what the forbidden fruit was), it was Eve – presumably more curious about the world – who first took the bait, and made Adam eat it. As a punishment, God declared (Genesis 3:14-19):

- 14 The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.
- 15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."
- 16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."
- 17 And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
- 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.
- 19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

In other words, God gave Eve painful childbirth (and painful male domination) and Adam painful agriculture, depriving them of their old privileges of eating without labor and living without thought of tomorrow, in total dependence on their Creator, all because they wanted to *know*, whereas they could just have *lived happily, without knowing*. And when they were thus punished, all of the succeeding generations after them suffered the same punishment. So how was their sin passed on from generation to generation, up to this day? It could only have been through that wonderful facility of gene or meme change that Sociobiology has so ingeniously invented.

However, the Judeo-Christian Bible does one over Sociobiology. In the Hebrew Scriptures, it was possible for the third or fourth generation to get rid of the sins of their fathers through great repentance. But the repentance had to be great, and there was no getting over the sin in the second generation, for this generation just had to suffer the consequences, and take on the sin. In the Christian Scriptures, the possibility of redemption is increased tremendously. This time, one has only to call on the name of Jesus, the Son of God sent to the world to redeem mankind, to be saved, whether from one's own sins or the sins of prior generations. In calling on the name "Jesus," which means "God-save-me" (and therefore suggests that Jesus is God), all previous sins are erased, and one is given a new lease on life.

In other words, the Judeo-Christian Bible is even more progressive than Sociobiology. It has a mechanism for change, which Sociobiology has not. All this, of course, is said tongue-in-cheek, by way of satirizing Sociobiology. But taken seriously, Sociobiology should, if it abides by scientific logic, acknowledge the truth of the Judeo-Christian Bible, since its own logic hews to that of the latter.