

understand conditions as they existed at the time. Then, and only then, does it really become meaningful for the historian to present his own judgments.

To those already familiar with some Russian history and the history of 20th-century biology, *The Lysenko Affair* is an extremely useful and important work. For the novice it is perhaps not quite the best introduction.

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Human Biology

THE KINDS OF MANKIND: AN INTRODUCTION TO RACE AND RACISM, by Morton Klass and Hal Hellman. 1971. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia. 219 p. \$5.95.

This excellent little book will not be popular with bigots. It is about race and racism: the genetic and evolutionary facts of human variance and the attitudes about race that have led to such incredible suffering and unhappiness for many of our own kind.

The authors develop their story with considerable skill, guiding the reader through taxonomic classification, a history of racism, evolution and genetics, and other technical subjects. Average readers will enjoy the book and experience no difficulty in comprehension.

Unlike other classifiers of human variation, Klass and Hellman avoid fragmenting mankind into races. They show why the concept of race is outmoded, when applied to man, and how it is kept alive through ignorance and misunderstanding. They discuss former and present-day efforts to classify races of mankind; then they destroy the concepts upon which these systems have been based. Recognizing that there is geographic variation in the human species, the authors discuss microgeographic and macrogeographic populations and their relationship to gene flow. There is a pertinent discussion on how socioeconomic, political, religious, and language divisions of mankind promote "we" and "they" relationships that may tend to restrict interbreeding between individuals in microgeographic populations.

This is an important introduction to many complex subjects that are of critical importance to relationships between men. I hope the book will be read widely by students and teachers in various disciplines. It would serve admirably as a textbook for introductory courses concerned with geographic variation in man or with sociology. I judge it to be mandatory reading for teachers who are involved with minority or ethnic groups.

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THE BIOLOGY OF RACE, by James C. King. 1971. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., New York. 273 p. \$2.95 (soft-back).

This fascinating book makes a great contribution to the clarification of a most misunderstood concept: race. This term conjures up confusion even in some educated minds, and it perpetuates misconceptions and prejudices in a world juggling ethnic and ethnic values. To quote from the preface:

"During the past two decades the United States has become officially committed to policies of racial integration in education and of fostering equality of civil rights and economic opportunity for all citizens. These policies constitute a clear repudiation of many practices of the past and run counter to the beliefs of large segments of the population. As a result there is much strident argument in the face of which the student and the thoughtful layman are hard pressed to find sound information on which to base opinions."

King has achieved an excellent interdisciplinary correlation of subjects pertinent to race, including genetics, anthropology, sociology, the development of behavior, psychology, and evolution. He has delineated scientific evidence without excluding interrelated cultural and emotional factors. Especially excellent are the last two chapters, on traditional misconceptions about human variation and on the unity and variety in the human species; here the author discusses such topics as the myth of pure races, *Homo sapiens* as a single species, racial history, and the social meaning of human variation.

Numerous examples enhance the effectiveness of the book. It is well written, and it contains a bibliography, reference citations, and a glossary of scientific terms. The book may prove most beneficial for college undergraduates, but its audience should also include gifted high school students, professionals, and laymen.

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