

It is a serious accusation to say someone is a "Nazi": Most of the chapters of this book are devoted to recounting in gross detail the horrible human experiments conducted on inmates of concentration camps, by doctors; indeed, some of these "Nazi doctors" were brought to the United States after the war, such as Hubertus Strughold. However, none of these people's photographs appear on the cover of Hunt's book.

Arthur Rudolph's does.

OSI repudiated by facts

In 1986 Arthur Rudolph was exonerated of all charges of war crimes after more than two years of an exhaustive investigation by the government of West Germany. After an OSI hate campaign, Rudolph had been coerced into renouncing his U.S. citizenship and leaving the United States rather than be subjected to a deportation hearing under conditions of advanced age and ill health.

In a similar repudiation of OSI "dirty tricks," in mid-August, the war-crimes conviction of former Cleveland auto worker John Demjanjuk in Israel has been thrown into serious doubt, as 15,000 documents recently "found" by the Soviet government have turned up contemporary reports that he was not "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka concentration camp. The Justice Department's OSI had illegally—but successfully—had Demjanjuk deported to Israel, using forged evidence provided by the KGB.

The legacy of what the German rocket team brought to this country (which included classical European culture and education along with tons of technical documents), and what they built since they have been here, stand on their own.

Taking her cue from the years of slanderous attacks on Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, Hunt never attacks the *work* or the *ideas* of the German rocket team. Her tendencies, and sometimes laughably contradictory, pronouncements—ignoring what these men thought or what they accomplished—then gives us a glimpse of the real purpose of her book. In the most inflammatory fallacy of composition, Hunt concludes her mish-mash of lies, half-truths, and assertions in the final chapter with the following: "Why have we made heroes of men who assisted in one of the greatest evils in modern history? Some were unquestionably highly qualified scientists. Wernher von Braun, for example, was a brilliant man who contributed immeasurably to American missile and space programs. But he was also a Nazi collaborator. What price did we ultimately pay to tap the Germans' knowledge? The most common response is that it got us to the Moon. But how do you balance that against murder?"

Hunt is convinced that the past years' "new beginning" of relations with the "open" Soviet Union have finally proven that there was no postwar need to make use of the talents of German scientists, even for purposes of U.S. national security. Perhaps the Soviet coup attempt of the past days will give Ms. Hunt pause to compare the culture, vision, hard work, and dreams the German rocket team brought

to Huntsville, to the tanks and armaments deployed by the Nomenklatura into the streets of Moscow and Leningrad.

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Holmes court paved way for Nazi race hygiene

by Nora Hamerman

The Sterilization of Carrie Buck

by J. David Smith and K. Ray Nelson
New Horizon Books, New Jersey, 1989
267 pages, hardbound, bibliography, \$22.95

This valuable book tells the story of one of the darkest blots on the history of the judiciary of the United States. The facts are summarized on the jacket blurb:

"Virginia—1924. She was 'poor white trash.' She was naive. She was teenaged and pregnant. They called her retarded. Then, they took her baby away, and committed her to the Virginia Colony for Epileptics and the Feebleminded.

"Following one of the most infamous trials of our century, she is condemned to be the first victim of the Virginia compulsory Sterilization Law.

"Two years later, Carrie Buck is sterilized—without her understanding or agreement—with the blessings and agreement of the United States Supreme Court.

"This act led to the sterilization of over 50,000 American citizens, without their consent. It was the forerunner of the Hereditary Health Law which initiated the slaughter of millions of Jews, Catholics, homosexuals, Gypsies and persons opposing the goals of Nazi Germany. Between 1933 and 1945, two million people were deemed 'defective.' At the

Nuremberg War Crimes Trials, the Carrie Buck case was cited as the precedent for these Nazi race hygiene programs.”

Who was Carrie Buck?

Carrie Buck descended on her father's side from the Buck or Bucke family, ironically one of Virginia's oldest; they had come to the colony of Virginia in the early 1600s. Her father's branch settled in Thomas Jefferson's Albemarle County, but had become impoverished through a series of family court battles over land. Carrie's father, Frank Buck, was poor to begin with, but after his accidental death when she was an infant, her mother, Emma Buck, apparently turned to prostitution out of economic despair. Carrie was placed in a foster home in Charlottesville, where she was treated as a servant.

School records indicate she was a normal child. But at age 17, she was raped by a nephew of her foster parents, and to avoid embarrassment, the family brought her before a local court and had her certified as feeble-minded. In 1923, they committed her to an institution for the feeble-minded, the same one to which her mother had been sent in 1920, and started building up the story of hereditary feeble-mindedness and moral turpitude among the Bucks.

Carrie gave birth to a daughter in March 1924, and the infant was given to her foster parents to raise. She was then delivered to the Colony for Epileptics and Feeble-minded at Lynchburg, which was headed by one A.S. Priddy, a fanatical believer in eugenics who had already sterilized about a hundred young women under his care, while performing operations on them for alleged “pelvic diseases.” Virginia did not yet have a sterilization law, but Priddy had gotten over a legal hurdle in 1918 when he was acquitted of having intentionally sterilized an illegitimate young girl during a normal abdominal operation. Beginning in 1911, together with two other top political figures in the state who were enthusiasts of eugenics, Dr. J.S. DeJarnette, the superintendent of Western State Hospital, and state Senator Aubrey Strode of Amherst, he agitated for eugenics legislation.

Priddy evolved the concept that “high-grade moron girls and women of good physical strength and health” could be useful to society, rather than a drain on custodial resources, if only they could be kept from procreating. He thought it was much more “humane and just” to sterilize them and release them to “be earning their own living in work for which they are mentally and physically adequate, rather than to constitute lifetime burdens on the taxpayers of the State.” In his eyes, “moral deficiency” was synonymous with “mental deficiency.”

Six months after Carrie's arrival, Priddy started agitating for her to be sterilized. He argued that if she were not, she would have to be kept in custody throughout her childbearing years. Sen. Aubrey Strode introduced a bill into the state legislature to legalize sterilization for eugenics purposes, and he and Priddy picked Carrie Buck as the test case to establish the law's constitutionality. Dr. Harry Laughlin, a nationally

known expert on eugenical sterilization, was a major medical witness in the case, although he never saw Carrie Buck. He simply used Priddy's “evidence” as his own, and his testimony was accepted all the way through the Supreme Court.

The Eugenics Record Office

Harry Laughlin was from the Eugenics Record Office on Long Island, New York, a race-science institution funded by the Harriman family (of the famous “liberal” Averell Harriman). This is not mentioned by Smith and Nelson, who do mention John D. Rockefeller's financial beneficence to the eugenics movement. The full horrifying story, as researched by Robert Zubrin, is published as an appendix to *Treason in America, From Aaron Burr to Averell Harriman* by Anton Chaitkin, first edition, 1984.

Priddy and Strode arranged for a mutual, longstanding friend, from their own same social set, Irving Whitehead, to bring Carrie's case before a court in Amherst County, Virginia, as her defense attorney. Evidence was concocted that Carrie's infant was feeble-minded. Not only was the “evidence” that was allowed by the court a bad joke, but the authors prove that the child, raised as their own by Carrie's former foster parents, made the honor roll at school up to the time of her death from a childhood disease at age 8. The transcripts of the prosecution witnesses, presented in the book at great length, prove that Whitehead made no serious effort to defend his client.

After being swiftly upheld at the state level, where Whitehead presented no real appeal, Carrie Buck's case reached the Supreme Court in spring 1927. Whitehead there argued that the sterilization law violated the Fourteenth Amendment, which promised American citizens the rights of life, liberty, and property. He correctly stated that if the Virginia statute was upheld, the “worst kind of tyranny” could occur and there would be no limit to the powers of the state “to rid itself of those citizens deemed undesirable.” Against this, Strode argued that eugenics, like vaccination (!), falls within the rightful police power of the state to protect the public health and safety.

Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, the role-model for Chief Justice William Rehnquist today, delivered the majority opinion on May 2, 1927 (only one of the nine justices dissented), making the famous statement that “three generations of imbeciles” was “enough.” He wrote that month to Lewis Einstein that the decision gave him “pleasure.”

On Oct. 19, 1927, Carrie Buck was sterilized in the infirmary of the Virginia Colony for Epileptics and the Feeble-minded. She was told that she had to have an operation because of her pregnancy, but it was not explained to her that this would make it impossible for her to have children. A few months later, she was paroled and held various household labor jobs around the state of Virginia.

In 1932, at the age of 26, she married a 63-year-old widower, William Eagle, who died in 1941. In 1965 she married a second time, to Charles Detamore. She died in 1983. People who knew her later in her life expressed astonishment that she had ever been viewed as retarded. The letters from her published by Smith and Nelson reflect an individual with low self-esteem, but far from illiterate and certainly not “feble-minded.”

Slave labor was the aim

One of the more damning moments in the trial transcript comes during the “expert testimony” of Dr. DeJarnette, when he justified his argument that “high-grade morons” like Carrie should be sterilized and turned out to work. On page 122, he is quoted in answer to a question from defense attorney Whitehead: “It benefits society by not taking care of them, and by the work they do. They are hewers of wood and drawers of water, and there is not very much more likelihood that they would spread venereal disease if sterilized, than if they were not. And then it is only for one generation.”

The eugenicists of that pre-Hitler generation were very candid about wanting a slave class of human mules who would not reproduce and thus not threaten the “racially superior” peoples, like the Roosevelts, Harrimans, and Rockefellers. In courts, the eugenicists, like their successors, the “ecologists” of today, held up impressive-looking but totally false “scientific” evidence couched in elaborate Mendelian charts, to prove that intelligence and feble-mindedness were hereditary traits, respectively dominant and recessive, like brown and blue eyes. This quack science was used to push a repugnant political philosophy and sell it as somehow being good for society.

The headquarters of the U.S. eugenics movement was in the Yankee Northeast, in New York State. But the test case for their hideous legislation was in Virginia, the capital of the Old Confederacy, the home of landed aristocrats (including the Harrimans), and the model fascist state before Mussolini coined the word Fascism—based on upholding the institution of black chattel slavery. When it got to the Supreme Court, the New England “liberal” Oliver Wendell Holmes could be counted on to ratify the decision.

Although the eugenicists successfully argued that the “feble-minded” did not deserve equal protection of the law under the Fourteenth Amendment, they turned around and asserted full equality when it came to administering the *death penalty* for retarded persons. Authors Nelson and Smith print a bloodcurdling example of a leading eugenicist jurist’s argument for that—an argument apparently accepted by Rehnquist Supreme Court, and the state of Virginia.

Nazism and beyond

Within the decade after Carrie was sterilized, 30 states passed sterilization laws, many of them based on Virginia’s model, and 27,000 compulsory sterilizations were performed

in the United States. More than 4,000 men and women were sterilized at the State Colony in Lynchburg, a practice that continued there *until 1972*.

According to the authors, Harry Laughlin, a star witness in the Carrie Buck trial, wrote Adolf Hitler’s Hereditary Health Law, passed in 1933. In 1935 the Nazis passed the Nuremberg Laws prohibiting interracial marriage for “race hygiene” reasons. In 1924, Virginia had led the way for this too, with an “Act to Preserve Racial Integrity.” The “scientific research” behind this hideous law was done by Eugenics Record Office field worker A.H. Estabrook, the person who collected the information on Carrie Buck’s family for her original trial.

This book does not say when (or if) Virginia ever repealed this law. Mary Harriman’s Eugenics Record Office quietly changed its identity after the war. Her son Averell had a large estate in Middleburg, Virginia—now the residence of his widow Pamela Churchill Harriman, who supports the modern “ecology” guise of the eugenics movement, as a powerbroker in the U.S. Democratic Party.

The Sterilization of Carrie Buck reviews the stubborn persistence of the eugenics delusion under other names. As recently as 1986, the authors report, a former Virginia state treasurer and legislator sent a letter to the General Assembly, in his capacity as a member of the Virginia Board of Social Services, suggesting that welfare mothers should be sterilized as a means of breaking the welfare cycle among the poor.

In 1948, the authors report, William Vogt published the book *Road to Survival*, applying “the ideas of Parson Thomas Malthus” to natural resources and conservation. Vogt argued that population growth has to be curbed in “backward cultures” and the lower classes of all societies, for humanity to survive, and proposed harsh measures for controlling population. He opposed food and medical care being part of aid to China or India, and proposed cash incentives to induce “permanent indigent” males to get sterilized, in order to “have a favorable selective influence” to weed out the propagation of undesirables.

Needless to say, just as in the Hitler era, the application of the eugenics creed has targeted racial and ethnic minorities first for extermination. As *EIR* has documented, this policy has been applied to the mass sterilization of women in Brazil under the aegis of a U.S. National Security Council memorandum dating from 1974.

Authors J. David Smith, professor of education and human development at Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, Virginia, and K. Ray Nelson, the former director of the Lynchburg Training Center and Hospital in Lynchburg, have performed a useful service with this exposé, among other things by showing that the first victim was a poor woman of White Anglo-Saxon Protestant origin. That ought to give pause to any who believe their skin color will spare them from the eugenics mob, in the long run.