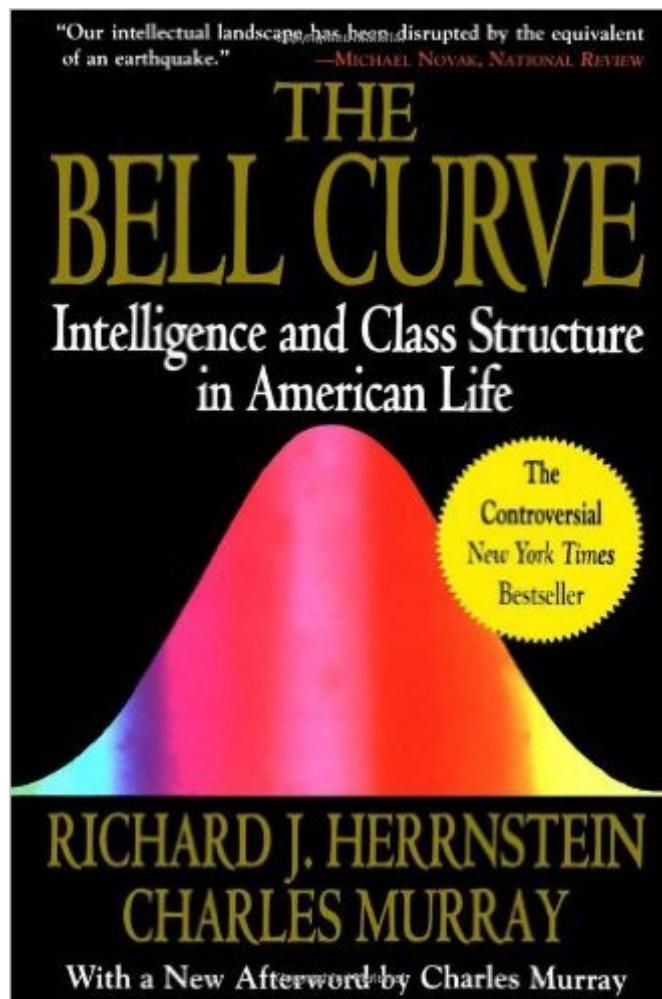


The book was found

# Bell Curve: Intelligence And Class Structure In American Life (A Free Press Paperbacks Book)



## Synopsis

The controversial book linking intelligence to class and race in modern society, and what public policy can do to mitigate socioeconomic differences in IQ, birth rate, crime, fertility, welfare, and poverty.

## Book Information

Series: A Free Press Paperbacks Book

Paperback: 912 pages

Publisher: Free Press; 1st Free Press pbk. ed edition (January 10, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0684824299

ISBN-13: 978-0684824291

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (353 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,824 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 inÂ  Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Demography #65 inÂ  Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Class #161 inÂ  Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States

## Customer Reviews

Since you're reading this, I assume you're thinking of buying " or at least reading " this book. That being so, you'll probably want to read other reviews than mine. This is in principle a good idea; but having just read all of them (147 at the time of writing) I should warn you that you'll need both considerable stamina and a strong stomach: there are indeed thoughtful and informative reviews, but they are islands in a sea of drivel. By "drivel" I mean the following:1) Reviews consisting entirely (or almost entirely) of expostulation rather than information ("racist garbage", "most important book of the 20th century")2) Asserting what the book doesn't deny and denying what it doesn't assert.3) Distortions of the book's content, and other disinformation, for instance: - "the panel criticized the authors for not explaining what intelligence is" (intelligence is defined on page 4 (!) ). - "The Bell Curve ignores bad diet" (Nutrition is explicitly dealt with on pp. 391-3). And so on. Many of the critics appear not merely to have misunderstood the book, but not even to have read it; amusingly, this is actually admitted in one review ("Although Head has only browsed through the book, she has seen this kind of pseudo-science before"). Some appear to be basing their argument upon the Moralistic Fallacy: if different groups had different average IQs for even partially genetic reasons, it would be a

Bad Thing, and therefore that cannot possibly be the case.

Readers who have not yet read this book will be surprised to learn that the main topic is not race, but how intelligence explains class structure. The authors argue that intelligence, not environment is the primary determinant of a variety of social behaviors, including class, socio-economic level, crime, educational achievement, welfare, and even parental styles. Hernstein and Murray back up these claims with some of the most persuasive data ever seen in the social sciences. The importance of a person's intelligence cannot be understated. Its is the number one determinant in shaping one's life. Hernstein and Murray do not stop there however. They go on, arguing that the bottom 15 percent in intelligence are simply not capable of taking care of themselves, falling into poverty, drugs, alcoholism, etc. American society can no longer accept such conditions for lower cognitive class. They make concrete suggestions on how to change this condition. They also make striking claims about the danger of affirmative action programs in promoting people who are not qualified to do important tasks. And finally, they deal with the issue that makes this book so controversial: The lower tested intelligence of African-Americans. At no point do they claim the gap is only due to genetics. They suggest past environmental factors come into play. But their main point is that modern day racism cannot explain the gap, and programs designed to bridge that gap will fail, and putting underqualified individuals in important positions is not the answer. The authors really do not go into detail about why the gap exists, setting themselves up for criticism. But at least another scholar can research this topic and try and explain it.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life (A Free Press Paperbacks Book) Debt Free for Life: The Ultimate Guide to Get Out of Debt (FREE Bonuses Included) (Debt, Debt Free, Debt Free Forever, Debt Free for Life, Debt Free for Good, Debt Management, Get Out of Debt) Wheat Belly Diet For Beginners: Grain-Free, Wheat-Free, Gluten-Free Cookbooks and Recipes For Weight Loss Plans and Solutions Included! (Wheat Free Grain Free Gluten Free Weight Loss Diet) (Volume 1) Social Intelligence: A Practical Guide to Social Intelligence: Communication Skills - Social Skills - Communication Theory - Emotional Intelligence - The Whole Life Nutrition Cookbook: Over 300 Delicious Whole Foods Recipes, Including Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, Soy-Free, and Egg-Free Dishes Data Structure and Algorithmic Thinking with Python: Data Structure and Algorithmic Puzzles Three Napoleonic Battles (Duke Press Paperbacks) Texas Hold'em: The Learning Curve of Life (Superstars of Poker: Texas Hold'em) Fighting for Total Person Unionism: Harold Gibbons, Ernest Calloway, and Working-Class Citizenship (Working Class in American

History) Gene Expression Programming: Mathematical Modeling by an Artificial Intelligence (Studies in Computational Intelligence) Java: Artificial Intelligence; Made Easy, w/ Java Programming; Learn to Create your \* Problem Solving \* Algorithms! TODAY! w/ Machine Learning & Data Structures (Artificial Intelligence Series) Javascript Artificial Intelligence: Made Easy, w/ Essential Programming; Create your \* Problem Solving \* Algorithms! TODAY! w/ Machine Learning & Data Structures (Artificial Intelligence Series) The Death of Money: Best Tips How to Survive in Economic Collapse and Get out of Debt (dollar collapse, prepper supplies, prepping, debt free, free money) ... self help, budgeting, money free Book 3) Secrets of Fat-free Greek Cooking: Over 100 Low-fat and Fat-free Traditional and Contemporary Recipes (Secrets of Fat-free Cooking) Cooking for the Specific Carbohydrate Diet: Over 100 Easy, Healthy, and Delicious Recipes that are Sugar-Free, Gluten-Free, and Grain-Free A Radiant Curve: Poems and Stories (Sun Tracks) The Curve of Time: The Classic Memoir of a Woman and Her Children Who Explored the Coastal Waters of the Pacific Northwest (Adventura Books) Interest Rate Modelling in the Multi-Curve Framework: Foundations, Evolution and Implementation (Applied Quantitative Finance) Collateral Damage: A Patient, a New Procedure, and the Learning Curve Beyond the J Curve: Managing a Portfolio of Venture Capital and Private Equity Funds

[Dmca](#)