

What's so bad about Jared Taylor?

Letter to the Editor

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“Jared Taylor thinks that multiculturalism is expensive and that it brings no economic benefits to justify its cost.”

But might he not be right about that?

“Well, then, Taylor thinks that the existence of black neighbourhoods and white neighbourhoods shows that people of different races aren't much interested in living together, and that the reason for this is that it's in human nature to prefer one's own.”

But he's right that few of us live in racially mixed areas, and he thinks there is evidence that bears out his explanation why we don't. Surely there's nothing wrong in noticing something and attempting to explain it.

“Okay. This is it. Taylor says crime, illegitimacy, and poverty rates are higher among blacks than whites and that they are higher because blacks are genetically prone to violence, promiscuity, and destitution. That's what's so bad about Jared Taylor.”

I agree that Taylor exaggerates the differences, reads the evidence selectively, and neglects other explanations. Yet it is not impossible he's right about these things. These are matters for biology and the social sciences to investigate. There would be nothing bad about a serious, honest researcher who, reading the evidence fairly, came to similar conclusions.

In short (I say in my own voice), what's so bad about Jared Taylor can't have to do with his views on any matter of fact. He might be wrong on matters of fact, but getting the facts wrong is not a crime or even a misdemeanor. So let us consider matters of value.

When he looks at you, Jared Taylor doesn't see an individual person with her or his own tastes and talents, hopes and fears, and virtues and vices. He sees a type, a representative of a race. He will treat you not as you deserve to be treated as the individual you are but, rather, as an instance of a type. And that is vile. In the end, that and only that is what is so bad about Jared Taylor, and it is very bad indeed.