

# Teacher resources for "The Bell Curve" debate

There are really two sections to this debate; there is the academic side, coming from within the fields of psychometrics or genetics, where information is often inaccessible, and there is the general population's argument, where information is often wrong or misinterpreted.

The first resource, for an instructor with plenty of time and interest, is the Bell Curve itself.

- Herrnstein, Richard J., and Murray, Charles; *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life*

On the academic side, some of the more accessible information may come from:

- [APA Task Force Examines the Knowns and Unknowns of Intelligence](#)
- Gottfredson, Linda S.; "Mainstream Science on Intelligence". Published twice: *The Wall Street Journal*, December 13, 1994, and *Intelligence*, January-February 1997.

Not for the faint of heart, the rest of that issue of *Intelligence* is devoted to the topic.

To the media end of the spectrum, this list refers to several sides of the debate without regard to validity or agreement with Shodor's or PTI's views:

- [A study on the effects of college education on racial average IQ differences](#)
- [An Atlantic Monthly article](#) disputes that there is a "cognitive elite"
- [A study](#) accounts for persistent poverty when examining racial average IQ differences.

- [A modern eugenicist group](#)
- [Commentary and data](#) on race and IQ.\*

\*I could not find anyone else noticing this, even in [a very long thread](#) archived from the seattle.politics newsgroup, which disputed the validity of many of the studies cited in the "Spectrum". However, at least one score is given as from Cattell's Culture Fair test, which is misleading -- the Culture Fair IQ test has a different standard deviation than most IQ tests, 24 instead of 15.