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JOURNAL OF BIOSOCIAL SCIENCE

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The *Journal of Biosocial Science* publishes original papers, reviews, lectures, proceedings and major book reviews dealing with social aspects of human biology, including reproduction and its control, gerontology, ecology, genetics and applied psychology; with biological aspects of the social sciences, including sociology, social anthropology, education and criminology; and with biosocial aspects of demography. Preference will be given to material which is clearly interdisciplinary.

Papers are considered for publication on the understanding that they have not been, and will not be, published elsewhere in whole or in part, and that, where customary, they have been approved for publication by the relevant Head of Department. The Editor is not responsible for any loss of or damage to manuscripts or illustrations and his decision on all editorial matters is final. This journal is covered by *Current Contents* and *Biological Abstracts*.

In view of the very high postal charges, when a paper is rejected the author will be notified but the script will be returned only if this has been requested at the time the paper was submitted.

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Papers must be written clearly, simply and concisely. They should be checked very carefully before being submitted. The author is responsible for the accuracy of quotations, tabular matter and references.

An original paper should not include an extensive review of the literature, but only sufficient references to indicate the purpose and relevance of the investigation. Methods which have been recorded previously should be described only briefly and in general terms, but the author's modifications, if any, may be given in detail. Text, tables and figures must be internally consistent and not repetitious. Results should be described concisely and discussion limited to the significant new findings. Theoretical exercises should be such as to lead to conclusions of general interest. Reviews should be authoritative and well documented.

The Editor reserves the right to make minor literary emendations in the final editing, but manuscripts will not be altered substantially without consultation with the author or marked unless the paper is thought provisionally to be acceptable.

Manuscripts should bear the title of the paper, name of the Institution where the work was done and, as a footnote, the present postal address of the author if different from that of the Institution. Titles should be brief, but informative, and should indicate the nature of the contents, not their import. A short title, to serve as a running head and consisting of not more than 50 letters (including spaces), should also be given on the title page. A summary not exceeding 5% of the length of the paper should precede the text. Section headings may be of four orders which in print will appear as: centre bold, centre italics, side raised italics and side inset italics; of these, the first and third are normally sufficient. Acknowledgments should be made at the end of the text in a separate section. Footnotes should be avoided except as indicated above.

Debate. *J. biosoc. Sci.* now includes a section headed *Debate* which is designed to carry comments on papers appearing in previous issues. Authors whose papers are involved will be given an opportunity to reply at similar length for simultaneous publication. Discussion of any particular paper will not normally be continued beyond the first comment or comments and the author's reply. As with all other matter submitted to *J. biosoc. Sci.* the Executive Editor's decision as to publication of comments is final. Comments, not to exceed 500 words (one printed page), should be sent to the Executive Editor.

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Tables should be typed on separate sheets, be given Arabic numbers and be headed by adequate captions. Their approximate position in the text should be indicated by a note in the margin. They should not exceed in size the equivalent of one page of print. Weights and measurements should be given in metric units, with standard abbreviations (μg , mg, g, kg; ml, l; mm, cm, m, km, °C). Other abbreviations which should be used include %, <, >, hr, min. The 24-hr clock should be used to indicate the time of day. Abbreviations as such, should not be followed by, and initials need not be separated by, full points (e.g. FPA). Mean values should, where possible, be accompanied by standard errors or similar statistical indications of variance.

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JOURNAL OF BIOSOCIAL SCIENCE

Vol. 10, No. 3

July 1978

Contributors

Reed Adams	Director, Criminal Justice Program, University of North Carolina at Charlotte	p. 249
Stuart Adelman	Ph.D. in Psychology, Washington University, St Louis	p. 235
Peter Anderson	Medical student, Medical School, University of Oxford	p. 277
Nick Beeching	Senior House Officer, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford	p. 277
C. O. Carter	Director, MRC Clinical Genetics Unit, Institute of Child Health, London	p. 301
P. R. Cox	Formerly Deputy Government Actuary, London	p. 302
Sidney Crown	Consultant Psychiatrist, The London Hospital (Whitechapel)	p. 221
John B. Gibson	Professorial Fellow, Research School of Biological Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra	p. 263
Rohan Jayasekara	Commonwealth Fellow, Department of Human Genetics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne	p. 255
C. J. Lucas	Director and Psychiatric Advisor, Health Centre, University College London	p. 221
C. G. N. Mascie-Taylor	University Demonstrator in Physical Anthropology, University of Cambridge	p. 263
Klim McPherson	University Lecturer in Medical Statistics, Department of Social and Community Medicine, University of Oxford	p. 277
David V. McQueen	Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences, School of Hygiene and Public Health, The Johns Hopkins University	p. 287
T. W. Meade	Director, MRC-DHSS, Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit, Northwick Park Hospital	p. 304
K. B. Pathak	Professor of Demography, International Institute for Population Studies, Bombay	p. 231
D. F. Roberts	Reader in Human Genetics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne	p. 299
Saul Rosenzweig	Professor Emeritus, Psychology and Psychiatry, Washington University, St Louis	p. 235
Joan Street	Information Officer, British Dyslexia Association	p. 255
Peter Stringer	Lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of Surrey, Guildford	p. 221
S. Supramaniam	Department of Psychology, University College London	p. 221
Martin Vessey	Professor, Department of Social and Community Medicine, University of Oxford	p. 277
Julius Weinberg	Medical student, Medical School, University of Oxford	p. 277