

INVITATION

April 6, 2001

To: Clergy and Community Leaders

From: Rep. Sharon Weston Broome, Tonja Myles, Darren Myles, Judge Darrell White (retired), Gene Mills

Subject: Resolution Condemning Evolutionary Racism

One of the sad ironies about our great state of Louisiana is that, while a lengthy Gallup survey recently confirmed that we enjoy the highest per capita church attendance in America, Louisiana has the distinction as ranking last in the area of race relations. However, we now have before us an extraordinary, practical opportunity to become the first state to illuminate a major impediment to racial harmony.

Attached is a legislative resolution that calls attention to the time-honored truths that unite us as a nation even as it exposes the irrefutable links between racism and Darwinian evolution. This resolution, authored by Representative Sharon Weston Broome, will most certainly help us bring unity and healing to our city, state and nation. Scripture declares (and science confirms) that our Creator has “... *made of one blood all nations of men....*” In order to fulfill the vision of true equality contemplated in America’s Declaration of Independence, we must come together as a community for the cause of ending the scourge of racism.

We would like to invite you to meet with us on April 17th at 3:00 pm at the Old State Capitol. This is an incredible opportunity for all clergy and community leaders to share in this history-making process! If you have any questions or comments, please contact Representative Sharon Weston Broome at 225 359-9352 or Tonja Myles at 225 658-0484

enclosures

“THERE IS ONLY ONE RACE – THE HUMAN RACE”

Fact: The notion that people groups have evolved their inheritable differences over large time periods in which they were isolated from others leads naturally to the idea that these differences are large, and can justify regarding others as more or less evolved (thus more or less human) than oneself.

Fact: Though believing in evolution does not automatically mean one is a racist (and vice versa), the fact is that historically, as Harvard’s Professor S. J. Gould has recently confirmed, after Darwin, scientific arguments justifying racism “increased by orders of magnitude”. Darwin himself wrote, as one of the implications of his theory, that the “superior” races (i.e. those most like himself) would soon outcompete and eliminate the “inferior” ones (i.e. those most unlike himself).

Fact: Nazi ideology was squarely (and openly) based on evolutionary thinking. Some groups of people are inherently inferior, and do not deserve to succeed in life’s “struggle” for existence.

Historical evolutionary racism in academia: Referring to so-called “savages”, Professor Haeckel (a fanatical evolutionist zoologist, who was Darwin’s most influential apostle on the Continent), said, “They have barely risen above the lowest stage of transition from man-like apes to ape-like man, a stage which the progenitors of the higher human species had already passed through thousands of years ago.” He mentioned “ape-like Negro tribes”, approvingly quoting someone who said, “They stand far below unreasoning animals”. He also referred to the fact that such “savages... have to be classed with the animals. ... a great English traveler, who lived for a considerable time on the west coast of Africa, says: ‘I consider the Negro to be a lower species of man, and cannot make up my mind to look upon him as “a man and a brother,” for the gorilla would then also have to be admitted into the family.’” Ernst Haeckel, *The History of Creation*. Vol. II, Translated by E. Ray Lancaster, Henry S. King and Co., London, 1876, pp 364-6

How the idea of “racial diversity” and evolution has gone hand in hand: The evolutionary zoologist, Professor Horatio H. Newman of the University of Chicago, stated at the time of the famous (and much misrepresented) 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial: “The species *Homo sapiens* consists of at least four subspecies or major varieties, each consisting of numerous minor races and admixtures of these. This high degree of diversity within the species is evidence of rapid evolution.” *The World’s Most Famous Court Trial*, pp 271-272, 1990

Today real observational science confirms: there is only one race: “With the precise tools of molecular biology, scientists can peer past superficial human characteristics to explore more powerful, underlying genetic unities and differences, which are making old racial categories look increasingly arbitrary and irrelevant....” Robert Lee Hotz, *Los Angeles Times*, as reported in *Cincinnati Enquirer*, February 20, 1995, p. A-3

“More and more scientists find that the differences that set us apart are cultural, not racial. Some even say that the word *race* should be abandoned because it is meaningless.” “We’re all the same,” ABC News, Sep 10, 1998, <www.abcnews.com/sections/science/DyeHard/dye72.html>

“... while it may seem easy to tell at a glance whether a person is Caucasian, African or Asian, the ease dissolves when one probes beneath surface characteristics and scans the genome for DNA hallmarks of ‘race.’ ... “If you ask what percentage of your genes is reflected in your external appearance, the basis by which we talk about race, the answer seems to be in the range of .01 percent. Scientists at the National Institutes of Health recently announced that they had put together a draft of the entire sequence of the human genome, and the researchers had unanimously declared, **there is only one race – the human race** (Emphasis added) Do races differ: Not Really, DNA shows, *New York Times* web, August 22, 2000