

Over 90% Of Human DNA May Be Completely Worthless



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7/25/14 11:40am



Geneticists at Oxford University are making the astounding claim that a mere 8.2% of our DNA does something biologically important. That means upwards of 90% of the human genome is "junk" — a discovery that could dramatically hasten genetic research.

As a concept, junk DNA emerged in the early 1970s. The idea became famous at the close of the Human Genome Project in the 1990s, when researchers noted that over 98% of our genome had no apparent purpose. But results from the 2012 ENCODE project suggested that 80% of what was thought to be junk, or noncoding, DNA did in fact have some kind of biochemical function.