October 23, 2023

Dear editor,

We would like to submit the enclosed paper, "Mainstreaming Race Science," for consideration by your journal. The paper uses a combination of bibliometric data and a text mining method (topic modeling) to examine the prevalence of race science — defined as scientific and/or pseudoscientific research that can be utilized to (purportedly) justify racial inequality and colonialism — across a fringe journal (*Mankind Quarterly*) and five mainstream journals in behavioral science (psychology, behavior genetics, cognitive science), over the time period 1960-2010. We find that two mainstream psychology journals, *Intelligence* and *Personality and Individual Differences*, played the most prominent role in publishing a specifically psychological form of race science.

Previous work on the history of race science has generally used qualitative methods, such as archival historiography [1], interviews [2], and manual text coding [3]. Our use of computational methods enables us to cover a broader scope, detecting the presence of race science within a corpus of about 34,000 documents.

We note that the text of the Discussion departs from a posture of strict neutrality. We have tried to avoid editorializing, but colleagues who read the draft encouraged us to make our value commitments explicit and offer a constructive path forward. If you or the reviewers judge that this section goes too far in these respects, we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to rework this section.

No related manuscripts are currently under review at any other journal. A paper on the package used for topic modeling has been posted on the arXiv [4].

Kevin Bird, John P. Jackson, Jr., and Manuela Fernández Pinto provided comments on a draft of this manuscript.

None of this material has been published or is under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Some of the data used by this study is covered by copyright and cannot be made publicly available. This includes Web of Science search results and the text of journal

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[1] e.g., John P. Jackson Jr., *Science for Segregation: Race, Law, and the Case Against Brown V. Board of Education* (NYU Press, 2005).
[2] Aaron Panofsky, *Misbehaving Science: Controversy and the Development of Behavior Genetics* (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2014).
[3] Donovan Adams and Marin Pilloud, "The (Mis)Appropriation of Biological Anthropology in Race Science and the Implications for Forensic Anthropology," *Forensic Anthropology*, December 30, 2021, https://doi.org/10.5744/fa.2021.0010.
[4] Daniel J. Hicks, "Tmfast Fits Topic Models Fast" (arXiv, May 2, 2023), http://arxiv.org/abs/2305.01535.

articles included in the corpus. A public GitHub repository is available at https://github.com/dhicks/race-science, and includes preprocessed document-term matrices and document metadata, the complete analysis code, and the Markdown source for the manuscript. Once this paper has been accepted for publication, we plan to use Zenodo to mint a DOI for an archived copy of this repository.

The supplementary materials include the description of the materials and methods (included with the main text for review), six supplemental figures (PDF format), and two supplemental data files (Excel spreadsheets containing manual quality checks of the topic model output).

Sincerely,
Daniel J. Hicks
Emilio J.C. Lobato