

BIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY MUST RE-MERGE

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A couple of millenia ago, it was Aristotle who founded biology, physics and psychology in a sense. And over time there have been fluctuations and divisions that were perhaps necessary for the various subjects became interested in specialised problems. Now the link between biology and philosophy, especially philosophy of human nature, lies in human genetics and deeper understanding of all the evolutionary adaptations we carry and their precise relationship to the expression of human nature. Human Genetics is still far from being understood precisely. Not long ago, I worked on the problem of estimating realistic human genetic variation, bringing it to tractable realistic scales of 5.5-27 trillion range. Now I can assure biologists that you will be totally lost without a healthy respect for philosophy. I am not original in this view, and this will be continuously rediscovered, that philosophy is important for biology and other sciences, much more than scientists want to admit it. I want to tell you a bit about why this is so.

You see, I am a devotee of Nature. I adore Nature and find her mysteries to be profound and beautiful. And always on my mind is the fundamental question of whether I, a mere human being, have the right to seek understanding of the vast complexity whose ends are unknown to me, Nature, all of Existence. Empirical sciences often find a flurry of events that give them consequence, demand independence, and try to rewrite the holy scriptures of the alpha and the omega from their own vantage point. This tendency is not strange, but it is deep folly. Philosophy gives perspective and illumination, and yes, *taste* to intellectual activity. Without taste, and this is not decorative issue but fundamental to what human beings have a right to understand at all, scientists degenerate into these wild creatures in the jungle wild with various sorts of human teeth necklaces ready to pounce to defend their territory and do not realise that they are no longer part of Civilisation any more. People don't like it when I point it out. Philosophy gives unity and perspective and keeps issues clear, and is for the most part, robust to passage of time.

The connection between biology and philosophy, as I mentioned, is the intricate nature of our evolutionary and genetic heritage. Philosophers have always had a broader perspective, and this will allow there to be order rather than pure anarchic chaos and in the end tell the difference between substantial features versus superficial features of what is understood.