Saharasia: una prova intraculturale della teoria sessuoeconomia di W. Reich e dell'origine della violenza.
(Saharasia: a cross-cultural proof of Wilhelm Reich's sex-economic theory and origins of violence question)

James DeMeo, PhD  www.saharasia.org
Full details and data in my book:


www.saharasia.org
Modern Peaceful Societies: Trobriand Islanders

B. Malinowski, *Sexual Life of Savages*, 1918
Modern Peaceful Societies: Trobriand Islanders
Modern Peaceful Societies: Muria

Verrier Elwin, The Muria and their Ghotul, 1930
Modern Peaceful Societies: Muria
Shared Social Institutions of Peaceful Societies:

- Gentle birth, *maternal-infant bonding*
- Much love poured upon the children
- All basic needs are met, No “obedience training”
- **Adolescent sexual expression freely permitted** -- no taboos, but no homosexuality, bi-sex, pedophilia, etc.
- **Children’s Democracy** - Bukumatula, Ghotul
- Love-match marriages, no “bride price”
- Contraception existed, Easy divorce & remarriage
- High women’s status, Matrilineal
- Pleasure-oriented, No body-anxiety, great social freedom
- No strong head-man, no High-God religion or full-time shamans
- No social classes, castes or slavery
- No permanent military (defensive only); no military glory
- Cooperative, egalitarian, friendly to strangers
- Typified by Muria, Trobrianders, M’buti, Lesu
High-Violence Societies:

- Too many to list!
Shared Social Institutions of Violent Societies:

- Rough birth, Couvade, Swaddling, Genital Mutilations for men and/or women, Poor maternal-infant bonding
- Children neglected, subservient, cult of obedience
- Adolescent sexual expression repressed & taboo, much gender-confusion, child-rape & pedophiles
- Marriages arranged, high “bride price”
- Contraception, abortion forbidden, male divorce only
  - Low women’s status, Patrilineal, Patrilocal, son-emphasis
  - Pain-oriented, Much body-anxiety & body rituals/taboos
  - Strong head-man hierarchy, High-God religion, male priests
  - Strong social classes, caste system and/or slavery
  - Permanent military caste emphasizing military glory
  - Murderous violence against disobedient children, women & minority cultures, occasionally exploding outwards against neighbors
- Typified by Islamic tribal societies & totalitarian states
My Early cross-cultural work

- Matrist-Patrist Index of Violence mirroring W. Reich’s Sex-Economy accurately describes world cultures
- In a 63-variable sample from 400 cultures: 500 positive and 20 negative correlations existed (should be divided at ~50% by chance alone)
- p=0.10 to 0.001 levels
- Data later mapped for larger sample of 1170 cultures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amoral Matrist</th>
<th>Unamoral Patrist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infants &amp; Children: Less indulgence</td>
<td>More indulgence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less physical affection</td>
<td>More physical affection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants traumatized</td>
<td>Infants not traumatized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted initiations</td>
<td>Absence of pain in initiations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominated by family</td>
<td>Children’s democracies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex-segregated houses or military</td>
<td>Mixed sex children's houses or age villages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexuality: Restrictive, anxious attitude</td>
<td>Permissive, pleasurable attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genital mutilations</td>
<td>Absence of genital mutilations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female virginity taboo</td>
<td>No female virginity taboo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal intercourse taboos</td>
<td>No intercourse taboos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent lovemaking severely censored</td>
<td>Adolescent lovemaking freely permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homosexual tendency plus severe taboo</td>
<td>Absence of homosexual tendency or strong taboo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incest tendency plus severe taboo</td>
<td>Absence of incest tendency or strong incest taboo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concubinage/prostitution may flourish</td>
<td>Absence of concubine or prostitution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women: Limits on freedom</td>
<td>More freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior status</td>
<td>Equal status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal blood taboos (hymenal, menstrual &amp; childbirth blood)</td>
<td>No vaginal blood taboos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannot choose own mate</td>
<td>Can choose own mate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannot divorce at will</td>
<td>Can divorce at will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male control fertility</td>
<td>Female control fertility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive functions denigrated</td>
<td>Reproductive functions celebrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture, Family, Social Structure: Patrilineal descent</td>
<td>Matrilineal descent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricial marital household</td>
<td>Matrifocal marital household</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositional lifelong monogamy</td>
<td>Noncompositional monogamy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Often polygamous</td>
<td>Rarely polygamous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authoritarian</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hierarchical</td>
<td>Epigamian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political/economic centralism</td>
<td>Work-democratic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military specialists or caste</td>
<td>No full-time military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent, sadistic</td>
<td>Nonviolent, absence of sadism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion: Male/father oriented</td>
<td>Female/mother oriented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asceticism, avoidance of pleasure, pain-seeking</td>
<td>Pleasure welcomed and institutionalized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhibition, fear of nature</td>
<td>Spontaneity, nature worshiped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time religious specialists</td>
<td>No full-time religious specialists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male shamans/healers</td>
<td>Male or female shamans/healers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strict behavior codes</td>
<td>Absence of strict codes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Behavior Histograms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Oceania</th>
<th>N. America</th>
<th>S. America</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patriot</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>74</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Patriot</th>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>400 Cultures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Number of cultures with a given percent patriot value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme</th>
<th>African Mediter. Eurasia</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>Insular</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>South America</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= mean value
Percent Patrist Maps

5° x 5° blocks of Lat./Long.

- >80%
- 71%-80%
- 61%-70%
- 41%-50%
- 31%-40%
- 21%-30%
- 51%-60%
- <21%
Developed from G.P. Murdock anthropological data base, of 1170 cultures from c.1900 CE. A geographical pattern exists in the standard ethnographic data.
Example of Individual Saharasian Map

Male Genital Mutilations, tribal units c.1900 CE
Oceania, Americas reflect Native Aboriginal Cultures Only

Bas-relief, Tomb of Ankhmahor, Saqqarah, Egypt, c.2300 BCE
Control variables not used in WBM also show Saharan Distribution

Female Genital Mutilation

Female Genital Mutilations, tribal units c.1900 CE
Oceania, Americas are Native Aboriginals Only
Infant Cranial Deformation & Swaddling, historical reports & archaeology. Oceania, Americas are Native Aboriginals Only.
World Behavior Map

- Extreme Patrist Region of Saharasia Matches Regions of Harshest Deserts
- But Saharasian Desert Did Not Exist ~6000 yrs. Ago!?
Saharasian Desert Belt

Observed in measured precipitation data and on satellite images, as well as in human behavior.

Top: Budyko-Lettau Desert Map (Dryness Ratio)
Bottom: Earth From Space, Pacific View
Why the Desert-Geography Connection to “Extreme Patrism”? 

Answer: *Saharasia constitutes the largest contiguous expanse of most extremely harsh hyper-arid lands on the entire planet. Saharasia has a long 6000+ year history of drought, famine, starvation, mass-migrations, warfare & totalitarian, empire-building societies.*
Lowest Carrying Capacity

Grey = 100-200 g/m²/yr  Black = <100 g/m²/yr
Nomadic Herding Predominant
(c.1900 CE)
Saharaskan Warriors

- Many different outbursts of violent invasion & conquest.
- Indo-Aryans, Semitic, Kurgans, Battle-Axe, Huns, Scythians, Mongols, Turks, Moguls, Bantu Tribes, Persians, Arab Muslims, …
Warrior-Nomad Cultures of Saharasia

- Indo-Aryans (Cent. Asia) & Semitic (Arabia)
- Battle-Axe People (Early Europe) “Kurgans”
- Sythians, Sarmatians, Cimmerians, Shang Chinese
- Huns, Turko-Mongos, Arab Islamic Armies
- Mogul Invasions, Bantu Migrations-Invasions
- 20th Century Nazi/Soviet/Chinese/Shinto/Islamic Imperial Expansions
- **Migrations were for survival or warfare-booty.**

Elsworth Huntington: “Pulse of Asia” c.1930s
Samuel Huntington: “Clash of Civilizations” c.2001
Modern Islam has “bloody borders” – Terrorism

- Proximity to Saharasia also predicts the greater or lesser warlike nature of European colonial powers.
But!... 6000 yrs ago, Saharasia was Wet! Not a desert!

• Abundant Evidence of Plants & Animals
• Giant Rivers & Lakes
• Human Habitations, Cities: Garamantia (Libya), Altyn Depe (Aral Sea Region), Syrian Desert Tells
• Rock Art Shows Transitions: Wild Browsing Animals (Elephant, Giraffe) & Cattle displaced by Goats & Camels
• \textit{Transition at c.4000-3500 BC}
• \textbf{If} Social Violence, War, Invasion and Conquest are Desert-Starvation-Famine-Migration-Driven, this implies: \textit{An Early Prehistorical Period of Peaceful Human Social Conditions, Before Saharasia Dried Out!}
History & Archaeology
Indicate an Outward Diffusion of Warrior-Nomad Cultures from Saharasia
*After* c.4000-3500 BCE

- Migrations!
- Invasions!
- Conquest!
- Maps from *Saharasia*, General Pathways of Cultural Diffusion, after c.4000 BCE
Saharaskan Desert Belt:

Formed around 4000-3500 BCE, rapidly, over only a few hundred years.

The Most serious global climate change since end of the Pleistocene Ice Age, which ended at c.10,000 BCE.

Conversion from wet semi-forested grassland-savanna with large lakes, rivers, into hyper-aridity, sand dunes, hardpan.

Figure 4. North Africa's abrupt change from savanna to desert during the mid-Holocene

North African Lake Levels

- Low at Present
- High c.4000-8000 BCE
- Low c.8000-18000 BCE
Early North African Wet Phase

- Sahara a wet forest-grassland at c. 8000-4000 BCE
- Sahara wet conditions also seen in Middle East and Central Asia at the same time
Rock Art in Tassili n’Ajer ("Place of the Waters"), SE Algeria, SW Libya, Sahara Desert
Evidence for an Early Peaceful "Garden" Period?
Rock Art in Tassili n’Ajer Region

Hunter-Gather Wet Period, c. 8000-6000 BCE
Rock Art in Tassili n’Ajer

Pastoral Cattle-Herding, Wet Period, c.6000-4000 BCE
Rock Art in Tassili n’Ajer
Goat-Camel horse-chariot warrior
Dry Period
4000 BCE to 500 CE

Artwork breaks down into chaotic graffito
Clay Statues in South Central Asia, transition to abstract & male-phallic imagery as land dries up.

Top two rows: c.4000-2500 BCE

Bottom two rows: post-2500 BCE
Massive Climate Change at c.4000 BCE, Loss of Water & Food Supplies

- Ongoing & Repeating Droughts ➔
- Desert-Spreading (Desertification) ➔
- Famine ➔ Starvation ➔ Conflict ➔
- Land Abandonment ➔ Mass-Migrations ➔
- More Conflict, Conquest ➔ Change in Behavior ➔
- Change in Beliefs, Social Institutions ➔

“Desert-like” Conflict Behavior becomes Habituated

*Wilhelm Reich*: “*Emotional Armoring*”
Starvation has severe effects upon infants

- Left Infant is 9 months old, severe malnutrition
- Right Infant is 6 months old, well-nourished
Trans-Illumination of the Skull

- Left infant, well-nourished, small ring of light indicating full brain development
- Center infant, malnourished, brain growth inhibited, light-ring increases
- Right infant, severely malnourished = marasmus, brain & nerve growth stunted.

- Effects of starvation-trauma similar to maternal rejection and neglect. Both create emotional armoring, and also can stunt brain and nervous system growth, with subsequent destruction of maternal-infant bond ➔ incapacity to reach out towards the world ➔ pleasure anxiety (W. Reich) ➔ subsequent male-female sexual disturbances (H. Harlow’s motherless mother monkeys) ➔ orgastic impotence, buildup of undischarged sexual tension with increasingly patrist and emotionally-explosive, violent behavior and social institutions.

- Once re-created by new patrist social institutions, armoring and violence are then independent of desert-geography or nutrition! It can then be carried out of the deserts by the new patrist warrior-nomads, who conquer, kill or enslave other cultures, and transplant their social institutions into new territories.
Many Scientists Fully Accept Early Peaceful Periods

- Bar-Yosef - Absence of evidence for violence in Middle East 12,000-6000 BCE.
- Brian Ferguson - Discusses many skeletal collections lacking violence evidence
- Richard Gabriel - “Man has known war for only about 6% of the time since the Homo sapiens Stone Age began”.
- “Matriarchy”/Partnership Researchers: Maria Gimbutas, Riane Eisler, Heide Göttner-Abendroth
- Wilhelm Reich, James DeMeo & others…
- **Pre-Saharan Period of Peaceful “Garden” Conditions was real**, with human violence appearing only with long-term epochs of drought-famine-starvation-migration, and then sometimes disappearing generations later after rains returned.
Saharasia Desert/Culture Region

Saharasic Desert Belt
Thank You!

James DeMeo, PhD
www.saharasasia.org

Copyright © 2013