

# **Achieving Equity in Gifted Identification: Inaccurate IQ Tests and American Psychological Association's Apology to People of Color**

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# The Topics for Today

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**The Fundamental Weakness**

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Historical Context

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The American Psychological Association  
Apology

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How to Interpret Intelligence Tests

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Closing remarks

# The BIG picture

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- Equitable Identification of gifted students is a critical issue
- Intelligence tests have played an important role in gifted identification and led to exclusion of students of color
- Understanding WHY we measure intelligence the way we do helps us understand what makes a test equitable
- It is important to differentiate test BIAS from test EQUITY
- Test EQUITY is about the CONTENT of the test questions
- Tests can be evaluated based on EQUITY
- The most equitable tests measure how well a student can THINK in a way that is not influenced by EXPOSURE; what they KNOW

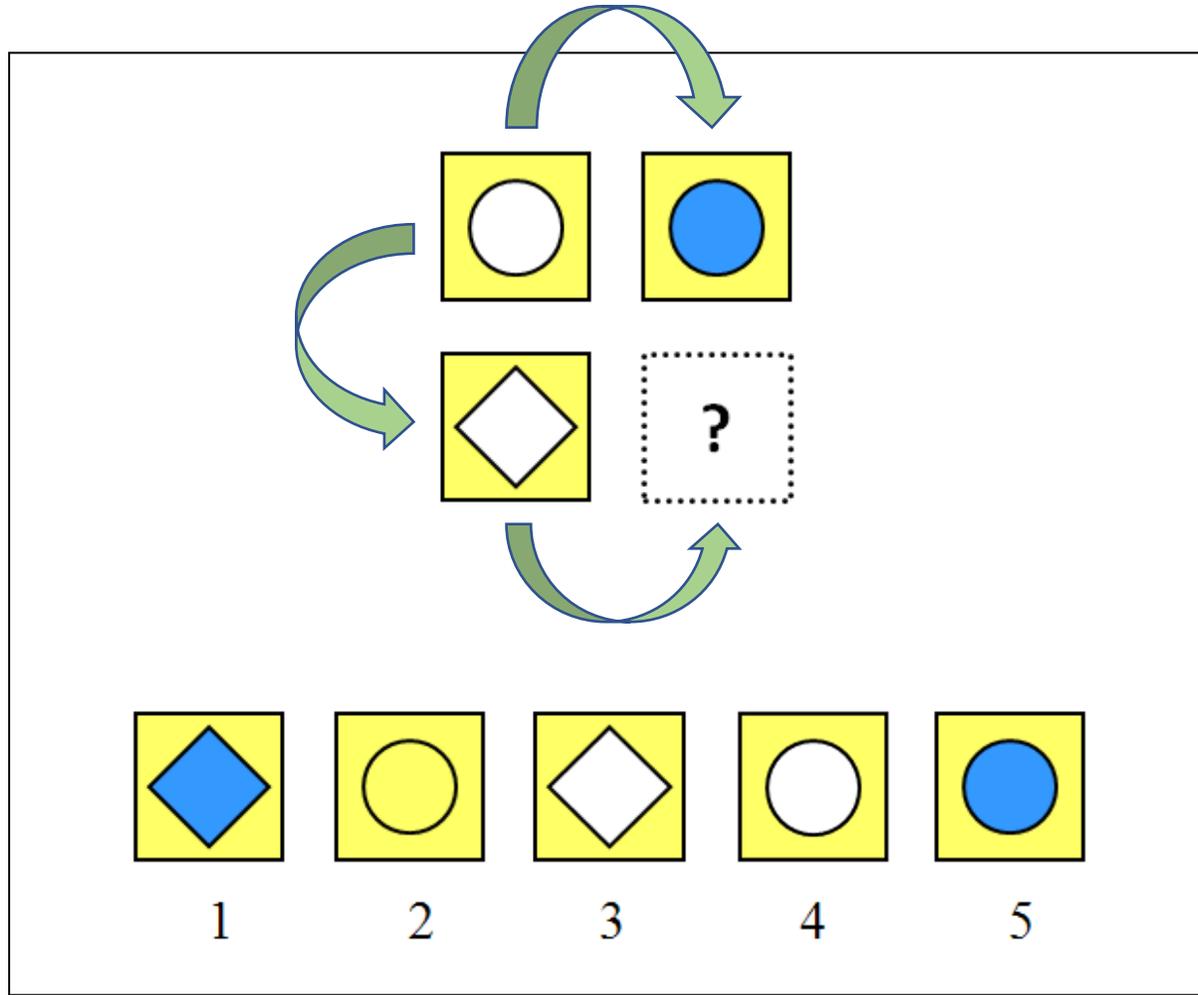
# Traditional IQ and Achievement Tests

- Working as a school psychologist in 1975 noticed that some of the questions on the Wechsler intelligence tests were VERY similar to questions on the achievement tests (e.g., Vocabulary et al.,)
- **It seemed wrong to measure 'intelligence' using questions that clearly demanded knowledge**
- **Shouldn't an intelligence test measure thinking rather than knowing?**



1975 Charles Champagne Elementary, Bethpage, NY

# Tests that Measure Thinking or Knowing?



Girl is woman as  
boy is to \_\_\_\_\_?

3 is to 6 as  
4 is to \_\_\_\_\_?

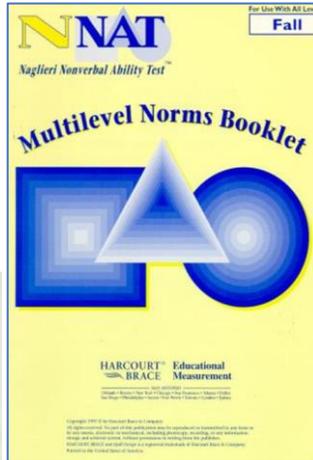
C<sup>7</sup> is to F as  
E<sup>7</sup> is to \_\_\_\_\_?

# Naglieri's Nonverbal Tests: 1985 to Present

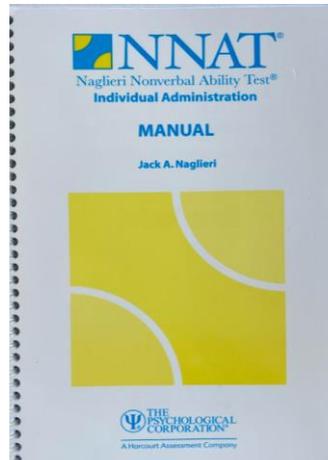
- **Research on Six** Versions of the Naglieri Nonverbal Tests



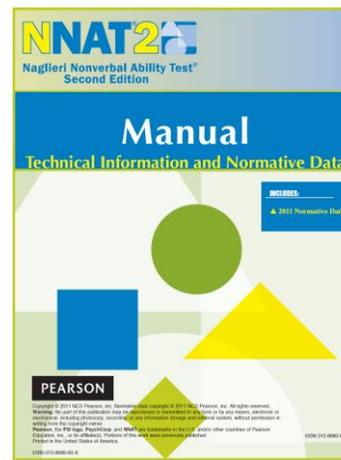
MAT Short and Expanded Forms 1985



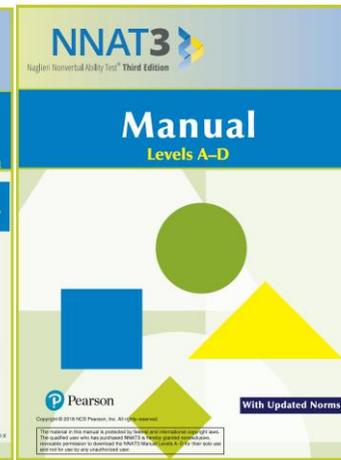
Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test 1997



NNAT –Individual, 2003



NNAT -2 2008



NNAT3 2016

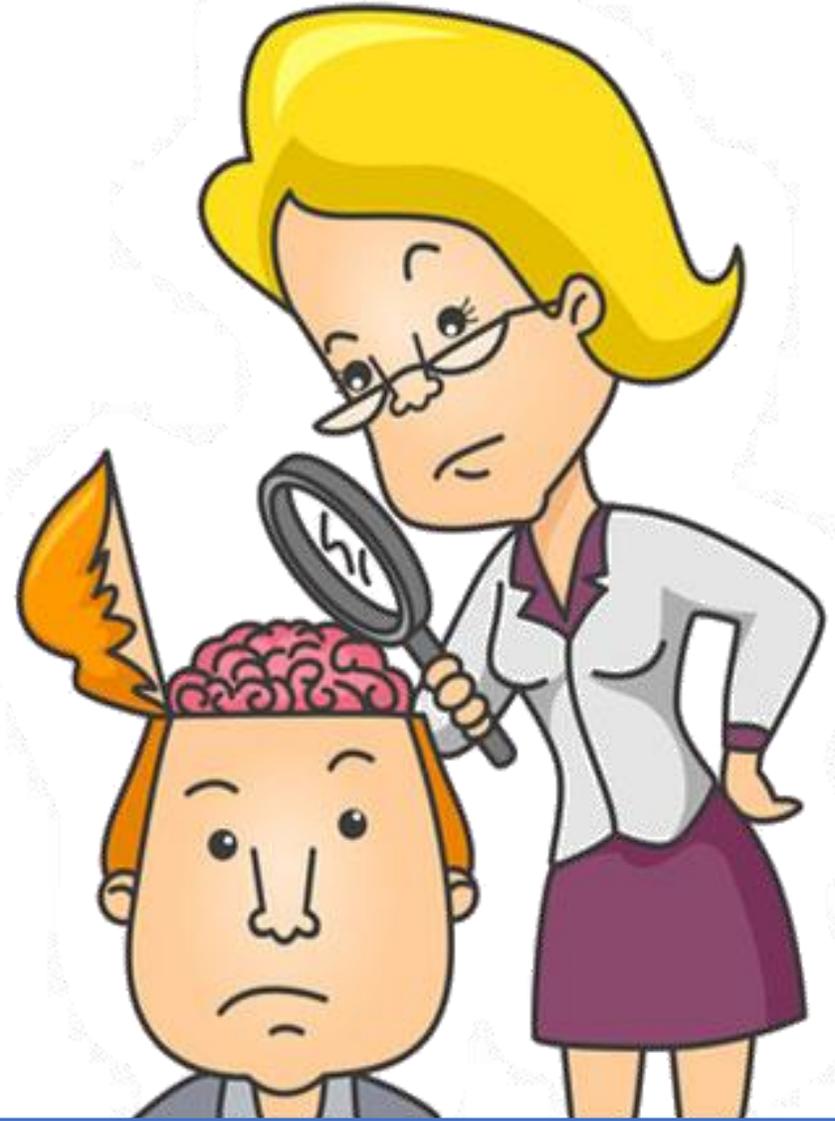
Each of these versions of the NNAT showed similar scores by RACE, ETHNICITY, & SEX and had strong correlation with achievement

This research convinced me that measuring intelligence using test questions that measured how well a student can think was a valid and equitable way to measure general intelligence 'g'.

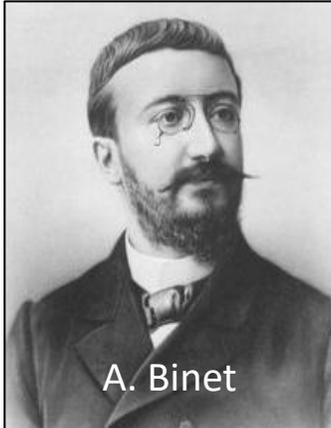
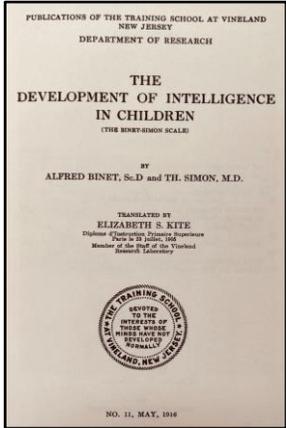
## *Two Questions:*

1. Why do we measure ability the way we do?
2. Do the tests measure thinking or knowing?

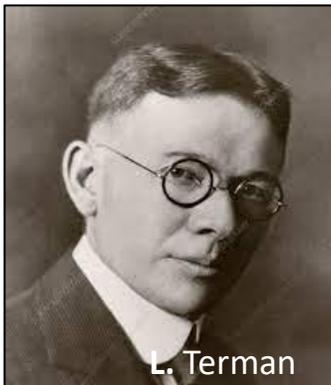
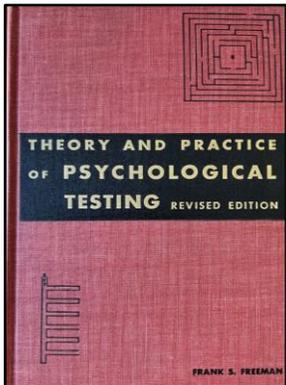
The early history of IQ tests provides the answers



# Stanford-Binet → Army Mental Tests → Today



Age 10
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Defines thirty words from vocabulary list</li> <li>(2) Detects absurdities in statements</li> <li>(3) Reproduces two designs from memory</li> <li>(4) Reads a short passage and reproduces content</li> <li>(5) Comprehends and solves problem situations</li> <li>(6) Names any sixty words by free association                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Repeats six digits</li> <li>2) Repeats twenty to twenty-two syllables</li> <li>3) Fits rectangular blocks into form-board</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Age 12
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Defines forty words from vocabulary list</li> <li>(2) Defines abstract words</li> <li>(3) Traces a path in systematic search (same problem as age 10, but a superior plan is required here)</li> <li>(4) Rearranges dissected sentences into meaningful sentences</li> <li>(5) Interprets fables</li> <li>(6) Repeats five digits backwards</li> <li>(7) Interprets pictures</li> <li>(8) Gives similarities between three things</li> </ol>
Age 14
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Defines fifty words from vocabulary list</li> <li>(2) Discovers a rule in a paper-folding test (induction test)</li> <li>(3) Gives differences between a president and a king</li> <li>(4) Integrates given facts and arrives at a conclusion concerning them</li> <li>(5) Solves arithmetical reasoning problems</li> <li>(6) Reverses hands of clock, in imagination, and gives the hour</li> <li>Al.) Repeats seven digits</li> </ol>



- Binet scales: in 1905, 1908 and the 1911
- Binet wrote: “a number of items in the 1908 scale were omitted...because they seemed to depend too much on school learning” (Freeman, 1955, p. 110)
- Binet and Simon (1916, p. 320): “verbal superiority must certainly come from the family life”
- Terman added items dependent upon school learning in his 1916 Stanford-Binet:
  - Vocabulary
  - Ability to read and comprehend text
  - Similarities between words
  - Arithmetic word problems
- Terman’s scale was ‘criticized - too heavily weighted with verbal ... penalizing [those] who had been handicapped in developing...the English language (Freeman, p. 127)
- Terman’s response: ‘intelligence at the verbal and abstract levels is the highest form of mental ability’ (Freeman, p. 127)

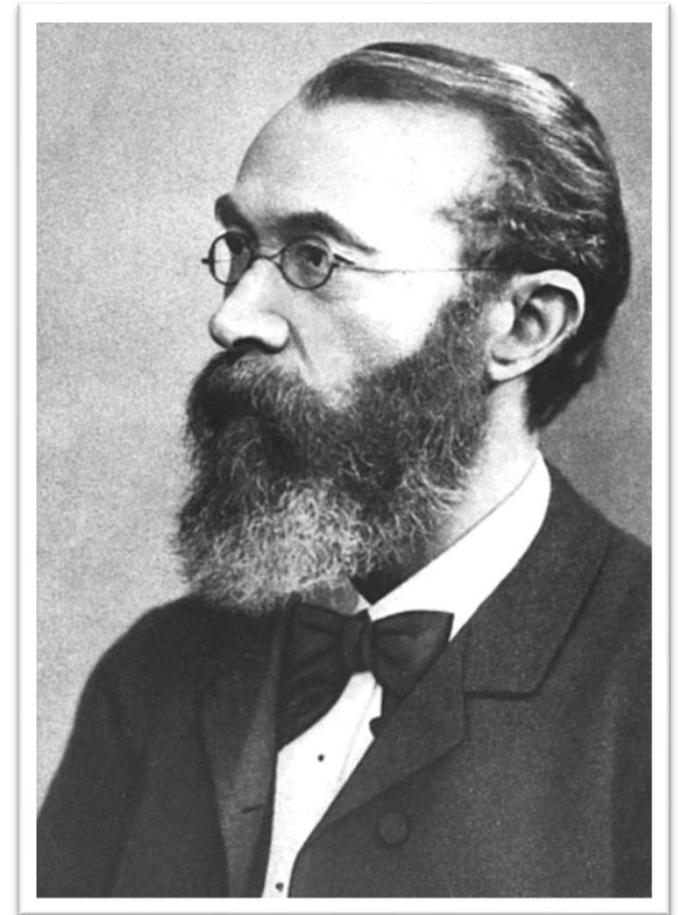
**The Criteria of a Test of Intelligence.** — Influenced both by the theoretical discussion of general intelligence and by the empirical work of testing, we have arrived at certain requirements for a good test of intelligence, which we may discuss under the four following headings:

1. *Tests must be relatively new.* — A good intelligence test must avoid as much as possible anything that is commonly learned by the subjects tested. In a broad sense this rests upon a differentiation between knowledge and intelligence. To use as a test of intelligence something that is commonly taught in school is not desirable, because those children who have reached the particular grade in which this is generally taught have memorized this fact, whereas other children of equal or greater intelligence may have had no opportunity to learn this same fact, simply because they may not have reached this particular grade in their school work. To ask the question, "Who discovered America?" would be indicative of the school progress or general cultural environment of the child rather than of his general intelligence. Failure to answer might indeed be lack of intelligence in the case of school children in certain grade in which this had been a matter of instruction, but on the other hand a very intelligent child might fail to answer owing to the fact of his not being in the grade in which this was taught.

# Pintner

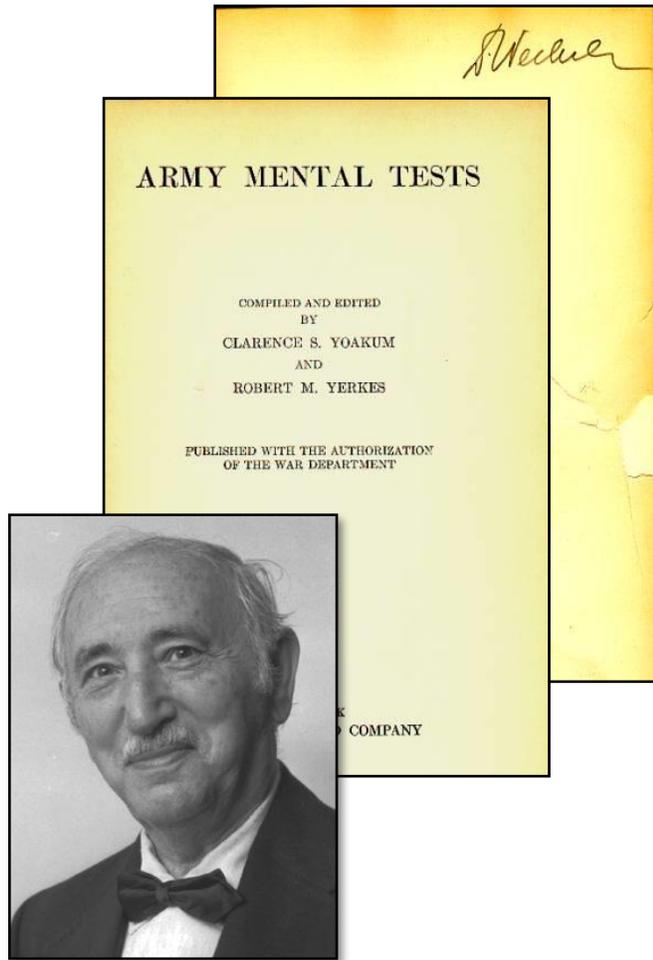
## (Intelligence Testing, 1923)

- This is a social justice issue for those from disadvantaged communities and those with limited education



A question on Wechsler's Information subtest

# Alpha & Beta → Wechsler Included Knowledge



- **Army Alpha**
  - Synonym- Antonym
  - Disarranged Sentences
  - Number Series
  - Arithmetic Problems
  - Analogies
  - Information

Verbal &  
Quant IQ  
(Knowledge)

- **Army Beta**
  - Maze
  - Cube Imitation
  - Cube Construction
  - Digit Symbol
  - Pictorial Completion
  - Geometrical Construction

Nonverbal  
IQ  
(Thinking)

WISC,  
WJ  
CogAT &  
Otis-  
Lennon

# Very Similar Items on “Different” Tests

## Woodcock-Johnson Cognitive & Achievement Tests (CHC)

### Cognitive: Oral Vocabulary Subtest 1

**Sample Items**

Point to *near* on subject's page and say: **Another word that means near**

A. Point to *big* on subject's page and say: **Tell me another word for big.**  
▲ **Correct:** large, gigantic, huge

Point to *nap* and say: **Tell me another word for nap.**  
▲ **Correct:** sleep, rest, snooze

### Achievement: Reading Vocabulary-Synonyms Subtest 17

**Sample Items**

Point to *street* on subject's page and say: **Another word that means str**

A. Point to *large* on subject's page and say: **Tell me another word for large.**  
▲ **Correct:** big, enormous, gigantic, huge

B. Point to *sleep* and say: **Tell me another word for sleep.**  
▲ **Correct:** nap, doze, rest, snooze

### Test 17B Reading Vocabulary–Antonyms

#### Administration Overview

- Test 17 Reading Vocabulary is comprised of three subtests—17A Synonyms, 17B Antonyms, and 17C Analogies. You must administer all three subtests to obtain a score for Reading Vocabulary.
- On this test, the subject reads the stimulus words aloud. You may administer this test for later error analysis. However, only the response is scored.

#### Sample Items

Now we are going to do something different. Point to “night” on subject's page and say: **Tell me the opposite of “night” is “day.”**

A. Point to “no” on subject's page and say: **Tell me the opposite of “no.”**  
▲ **Correct:** yes

B. Point to “right” and say: **Tell me the opposite of “right.”**  
▲ **Correct:** wrong, incorrect, left

### Test 1C Verbal Comprehension–Antonyms

#### Administration Overview

- Test 1 Verbal Comprehension is comprised of four subtests—1A Verbal Analogies, 1B Verbal Synonyms, 1C Antonyms, and 1D Verbal Analogies. You must administer all four subtests to obtain a score for Verbal Comprehension.
- It is essential that you know the exact pronunciation of the word when administering this test.

#### Sample Items

Now we are going to do something different. Point to word “day” on subject's page and say: **Tell me the opposite of “day” is “night.”**

A. Point to word “yes” and say: **Tell me the opposite of “yes.”**  
▲ **Correct:** no

B. Point to word “wrong” and say: **Tell me the opposite of “wrong.”**  
▲ **Correct:** right [bueno], correct

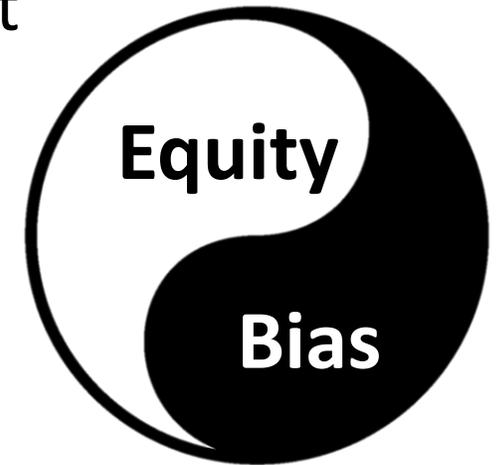
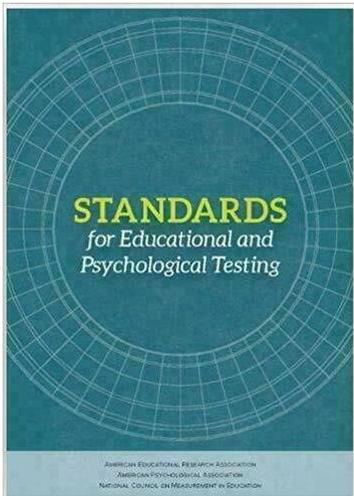
# Including *Knowledge* in “Ability” Tests & Equity

Stanford-Binet-5	WISC-V	WJ-IV	KABC-II	OLSAT	CogAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal</li> <li>• Knowledge</li> <li>• Quantitative Reasoning</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> <li>• Verbal Analogies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal Comprehension Vocabulary, Similarities, Information &amp; Comprehension</li> <li>• Fluid Reasoning Figure Weights, Arithmetic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehension Knowledge: Vocabulary &amp; General Information</li> <li>• Fluid Reasoning: Number Series &amp; Concept Formation</li> <li>• Auditory Processing: Phonological Processing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge / GC</li> <li>• Riddles,</li> <li>• Expressive Vocabulary,</li> <li>• Verbal Knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal</li> <li>• Following directions</li> <li>• Verbal Reasoning</li> <li>• Quantitative</li> <li>• Verbal Arithmetic Reasoning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal Scale</li> <li>• Analogies</li> <li>• Sentence Completion</li> <li>• Verbal Classification</li> <li>• Quantitative</li> <li>• <b>45 pages of oral instructions</b></li> </ul>

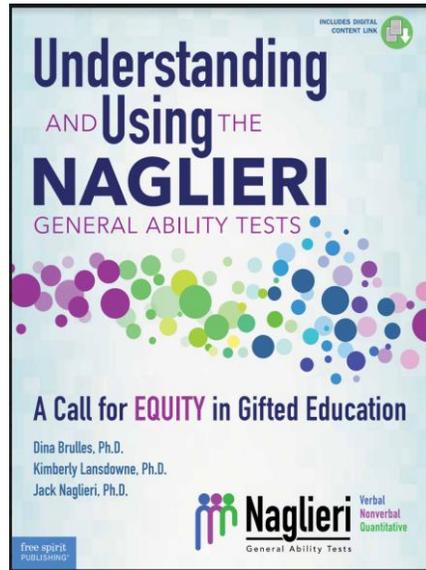
# Test Content, Test Bias and Test Equity

According to the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (AERA, APA, NCME, 2014) Psychometric TEST BIAS and EQUITY are two different ways of measuring test fairness.

- ... if a person has had limited opportunities to learn the content in a test of intelligence, ***that test may be considered unfair*** (because it penalizes students for lacking knowledge) **even if there is not evidence of psychometric test bias.**
- Evidence of EQUITY is examined by test content and mean score differences



# Race and Ethnic Average Score Differences by Ability Test



Traditional tests that include knowledge and 2nd-Generation Ability Tests that minimize knowing

See Brulles, D., Lansdowne, K. & Naglieri, J. A. (2022). Understanding and Using the Naglieri General Ability Tests: A Call to Equity in Gifted Education. Minneapolis, MN: Free Spirit Publishing for more details.

**Note: Even though a test may not show psychometric bias those tests with academic content that show large mean score differences are not equitable and are unfair.**

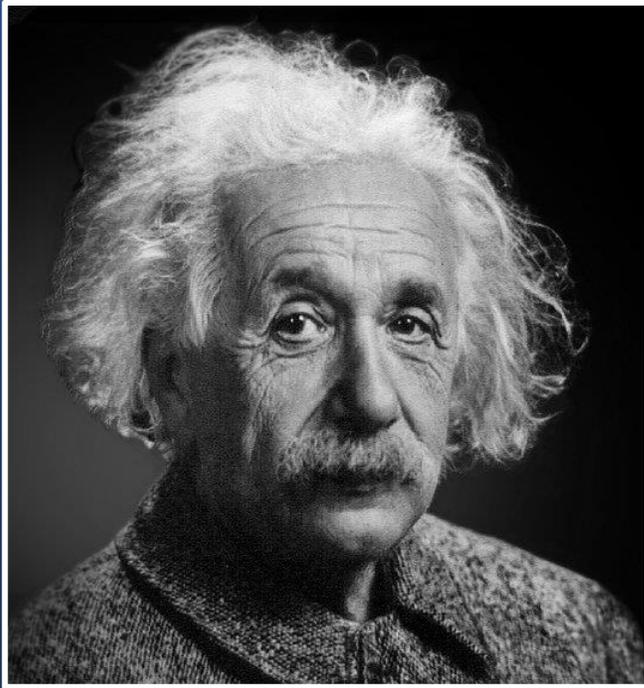
	By Race	By Ethnicity
<b>Tests that require knowledge</b>	<b>Mn = 9.5</b>	<b>Mn = 5.2</b>
Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (distric wide)	13.6	
Stanford-Binet IV (normative sample)	12.6	
WISC-V (normative sample)	11.6	
WJ- III (normative sample)	10.9	10.7
CogAT7 (Nonverbal scale)	11.8	7.6
CogAT7 - Verbal	6.6	5.3
CogAT7-Quantitative	5.6	3.6
CogAT- Nonverbal	6.4	2.9
CogAT-Total (V, Q & NV)	7.0	4.5
WISC-V (statistical controls normative sample)	8.7	
<b>Tests that require minimal knowledge</b>	<b>Mn = 4.3</b>	<b>Mn = 2.9</b>
K-ABC (normative sample)	7.0	
K-ABC (matched samples)	6.1	
KABC-II (adjusted for gender & SES)	6.7	5.4
CAS-2 (normative sample)	6.3	4.5
CAS (statistical controls normative sample)	4.8	4.8
CAS-2 (statistical controls normative sample)	4.3	1.8
CAS-2 Brief (normative samples)	2.0	2.8
NNAT (matched samples)	4.2	2.8
Naglieri General Ability Test-Verbal	2.2	1.6
Naglieri General Ability Test-Nonverbal	1.0	1.1
Naglieri General Ability Test-Quantitative	3.2	1.3
<b>Note:</b> The results summarized here were reported for the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test by Avant and O'Neal (1986); Stanford-Binet IV by Wasserman (2000); Woodcock-Johnson III race differences by Edwards and Oakland (2006) and ethnic differences by Sotelo-Dynega, Ortiz, Flanagan, and Chaplin (2013); CogAT7 by Carman, Walther and Bartsch (2018) and Lohman (2016), WISC-V by Kaufman, Raiford, and Coalson (2016); Kaufman Assessment Battery for Children-II by Lichtenberger, Volker, Kaufman & Kaufman, (2006); CAS by Naglieri, Rojahn, Matto, and Aquilino (2005); CAS-2 and CAS2: Brief by Naglieri, Das, and Goldstein, 2014a and 2014b; Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test by Naglieri and Ronning (2000), and Naglieri General Ability Tests by Naglieri, Brulles, and Lansdowne (2022).		



The test you choose determines the results you receive, the decisions you make, and the future of that student.

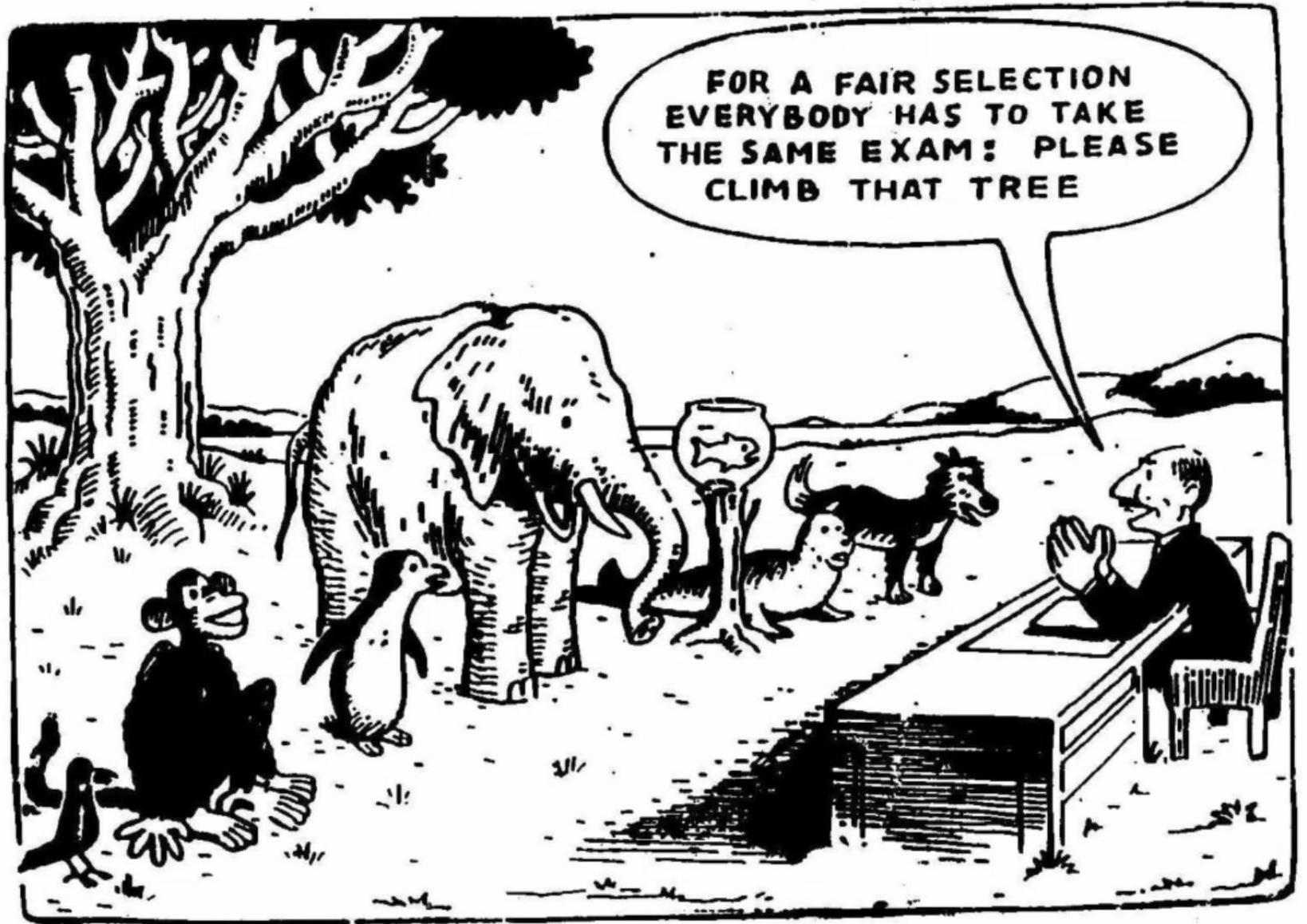
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That is the *Practical Impact* of test selection

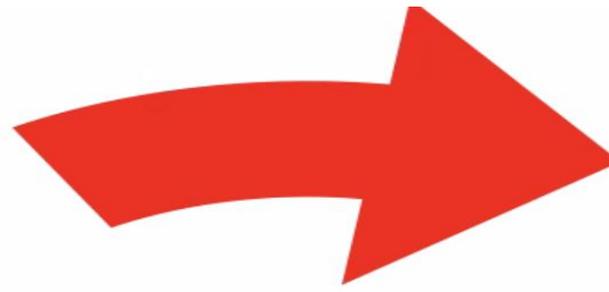


If you ask a fish to climb a tree, it will spend its entire life thinking it is stupid.

-Albert Einstein



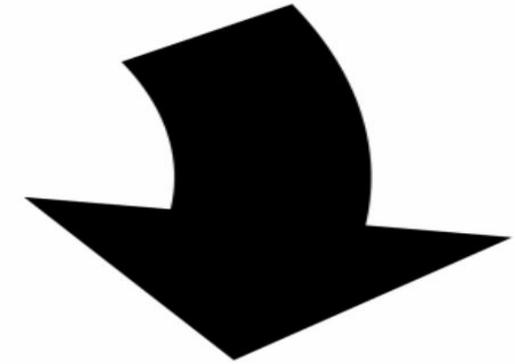
The **LESS**  
we know



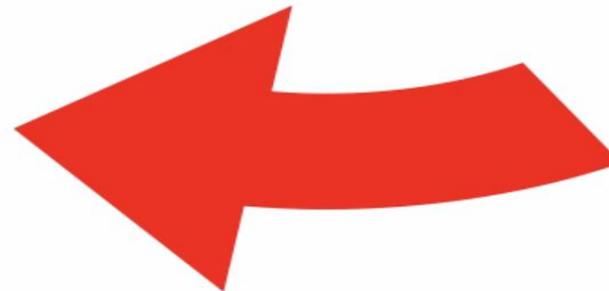
about  
others



*Cycle of  
Deficit  
Thinking*



we make  
up!

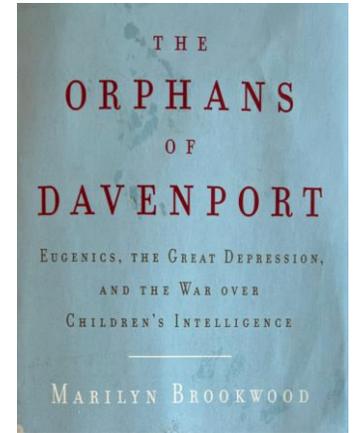


the  
**MORE**

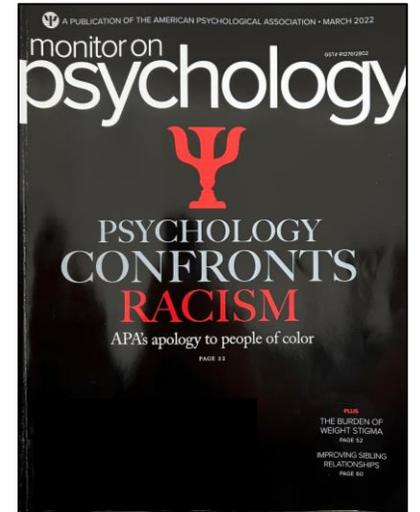
Donna Y. Ford  
From Multicultural Gifted  
Education

# IQ Tests Role in Promoting Racism

- Lewis Terman – promoter of eugenics (Greek for good birth) and Stanford-Binet (1916) author wrote that his test would reveal “significant racial differences in general intelligence...which cannot be wiped out by any culture”
- He advocated that identification of low-intelligence children and adults who would be involuntarily institutionalized and *sterilized would improve society*. (p. 68, Brookwood, 2021)
- His emphasis on VERBAL as the highest form of intelligence distorted the evaluation of intelligence for countless numbers of people

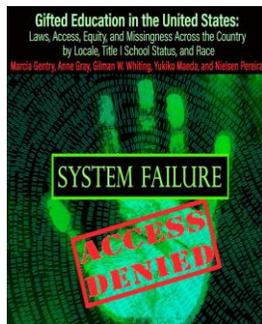
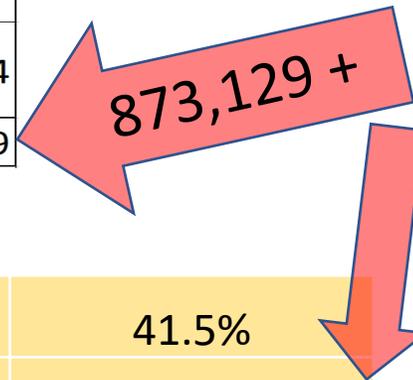
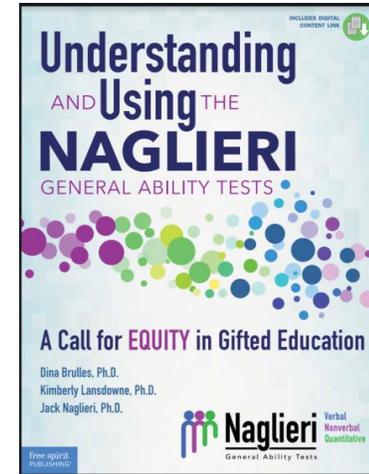


- ‘APA recognizes the roles of psychology in promoting...racism, and the harms that have been inflicted on communities of color ... and the ways measurement of intelligence has been systemically used to create the ideology of White supremacy’
  - Throughout the 1900s prominent psychologists involved in IQ test development supported eugenics
  - In 1916 Lewis Terman *Stanford-Binet* author advocated an educational system which separated white children from Blacks, Mexicans and Native Americans
  - 1933 Raymond Cattell (CHC & WJ) spoke out against race mixing and he lobbied to overturn the 1954 Brown v. Board Education
- What impact has this had on identification of GIFTED STUDENTS?



# Numbers of Gifted Students Missed = 1,235,434

Total Enrollments by Race and Ethnicity as of 2020.				
	N in Public Education K-12 in 2020	N Potentially Gifted (8%; 92 %tile)	N Students in gifted programs	Difference Between Potential and Identified
White	23,834,458	1,906,757	1,937,350	30,593
Black	7,754,506	620,360	330,774	-289,586
Hispanic	14,337,467	1,146,997	600,498	-546,499
Native American/ Alaska Native	484,766	38,781	27,712	-11,069
Two or More Races	1,641,817	131,345	105,371	-25,974
<b>Total Non-Whites</b>	<b>24,218,556</b>	<b>1,937,484</b>	<b>1,064,355</b>	<b>-873,129</b>



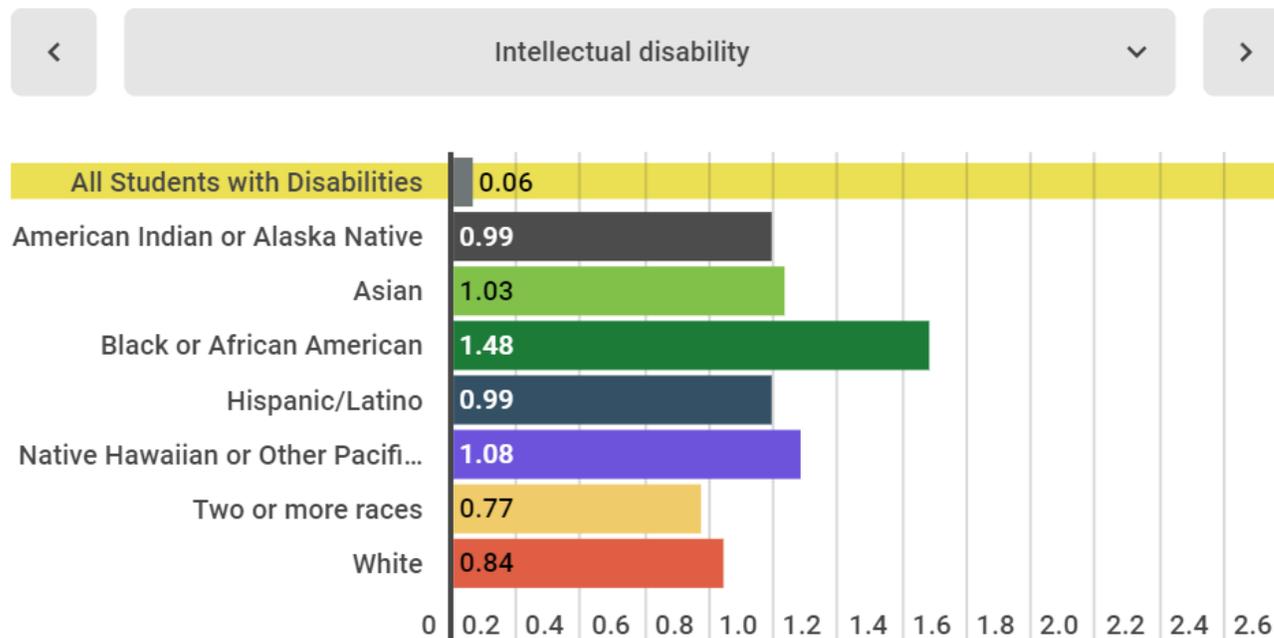
Percent of Schools that do not Identify	41.5%
Additional non-white gifted students = 41.5% of 873,129	N = 362,305
<b>Total non-white gifted students missed</b>	<b>N = 1,235,434</b>



## OSEP Fast Facts: Race and Ethnicity of Children with Disabilities Served under IDEA Part B

For the purposes of this fact sheet, racial ethnic groups are defined in the IDEA Part B Child Count and Educational Environments for School Year 2019-2020, OSEP Data Documentation. <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/osepidea/618-data/collection-documentation/data-documentation-files/part-b/child-count-and-educational-environment/idea-partb-childcountandedenvironment-2019-20.pdf>

### Risk Ratio of Students with Disabilities by Disability Category and by Specific Race and Ethnicity, Ages 5 (in kindergarten) through 21: SY 2019-20

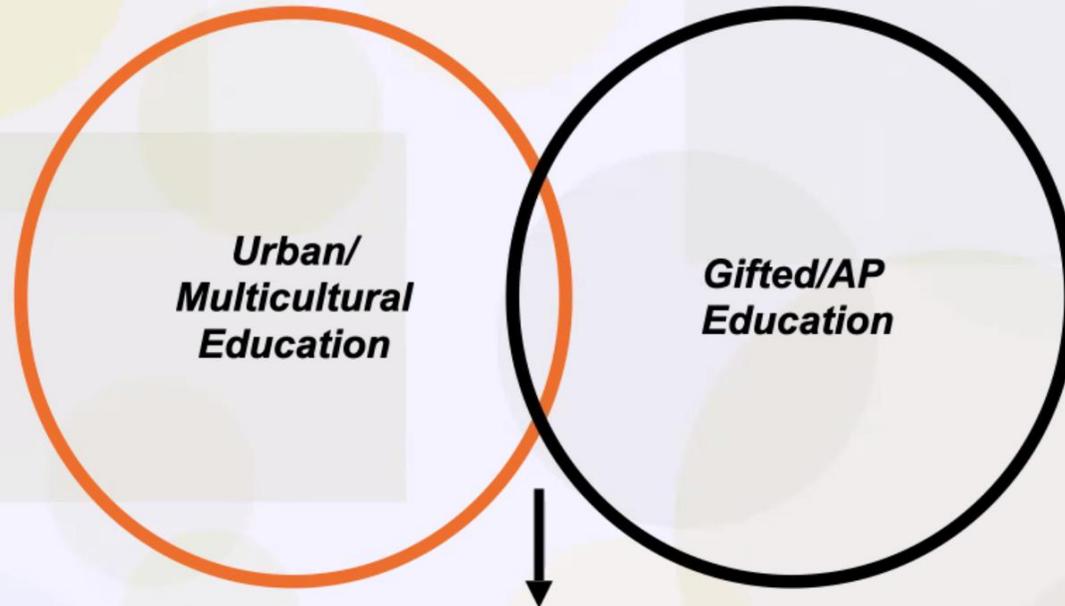


The relative risk ratio of students with disabilities under IDEA by race and Ethnicity is the probability of a student with a disability being identified for intellectual disability. The higher the number, the larger the probability. Nationally, **Black Students are 1.48 times more likely to be identified with intellectual disability** compared to all students with disabilities.

<https://sites.ed.gov/idea/osep-fast-facts-race-and-ethnicity-of-children-with-disabilities-served-under-idea-part-b/>

[https://ldaamerica.org/lda\\_today/disproportionate-identification-of-students-of-color-in-special-education/](https://ldaamerica.org/lda_today/disproportionate-identification-of-students-of-color-in-special-education/)

# Bridging Two Fields



**Needs and Development**  
**Academic and Cognitive**  
**Affective and Psychological**  
**Social and Cultural**

D.Y. Ford

Systemic...

Achievement Gap

5

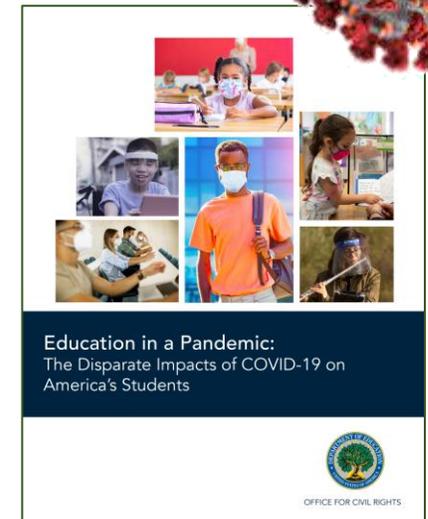
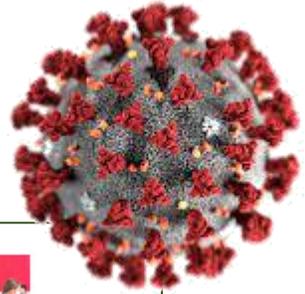
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
Over-Representation

DISCIPLINE  
Over-Representation

GIFTED EDUCATION & AP  
Under-Representation

# Academic Learning Loss & COVID

- COVID-19 has increased the impact of disparities in access and opportunity for students of color and they are even further behind than they were before.
- Their **scores on traditional intelligence tests** which demand knowledge **are even more inaccurate.**
- **Solutions:**
  - For traditional tests, use post-COVID norms only.
  - Use intelligence tests that are not dependent upon knowledge



Education in a Pandemic: The Disparate Impacts of COVID-19 on America's Students. US Dept. of Ed- Office of Civil Rights. June, 21, 2021. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/20210608-impacts-of-covid19.p>



Psychologists who studied race and ethnic differences attributed IQ test results to the **people** instead of the **tests**

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That is the Practical Impact of flawed intelligence tests

## Equality



## Equity



To be responsive is to address a NEED!

# Tests with Equity as a Goal 1985-Present

Traditional Tests

1. Naglieri, J. A. (1985). *Matrix Analogies Test - Expanded Form*. San Antonio: The Psychological Corporation.
2. Naglieri, J. A. (1985). *Matrix Analogies Test - Short Form*. San Antonio: The Psychological Corporation.
3. Naglieri, J. A. (1997). *Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test*. San Antonio, TX: The Psychological Corporation.
4. Naglieri, J. A., & Bardos, A. N. (1997). *General Ability Scale for Adults*. San Antonio, TX: Pearson.
5. Naglieri, J. A. (2003). *Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test - Individual Form*. San Antonio, TX: Pearson.
6. Wechsler, D., & Naglieri, J. A. (2006). *Wechsler Nonverbal Scale of Ability*. San Antonio, TX: Pearson.
7. Naglieri, J. A. (2008). *Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test – 2nd Edition*. San Antonio, TX: Pearson.
8. Naglieri, J. A. (2016). *Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test – Third Edition*. San Antonio, TX: Pearson.

Second Generation

9. Naglieri, J. A., & Das, J. P. (1997). *Cognitive Assessment System*. Austin: ProEd
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# Can a Traditional Intelligence Test of General Ability be Equitable?

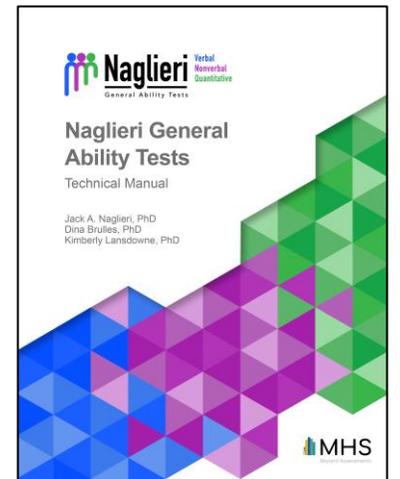
Measure 'Thinking' with minimal influence of 'Knowing'

*The Naglieri General Ability Tests: Verbal, Nonverbal and Quantitative*

**VERBAL** - Dina Brulles, Ph.D. [dbrulles@gmail.com](mailto:dbrulles@gmail.com)

**NONVEBAL** - Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D. [jnaglieri@gmail.com](mailto:jnaglieri@gmail.com)

**QUANTITATIVE** - Kim Lansdowne, Ph.D. [Kimberly.Lansdowne@asu.edu](mailto:Kimberly.Lansdowne@asu.edu)



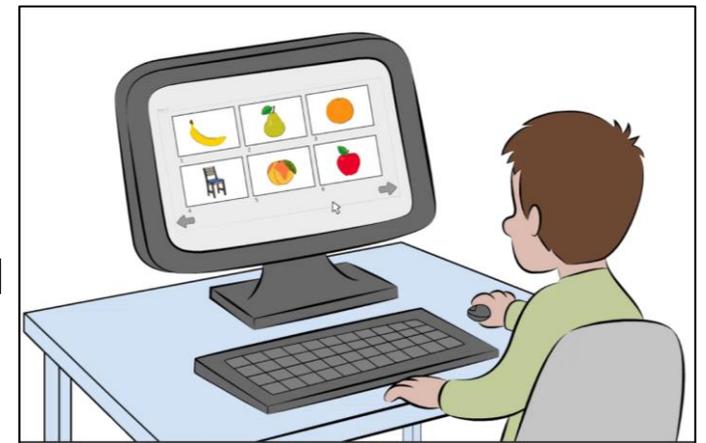
# Naglieri General Ability Tests

Jack A. Naglieri, Dina Brulles & Kimerly Lansdowne (2022)



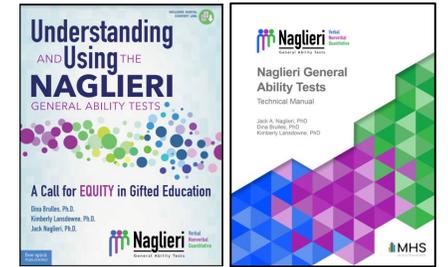
- We **explicitly made tests for equitable identification** of students from diverse cultural, linguistic, or socioeconomic backgrounds using the traditional Verbal, Nonverbal and Quantitative formats to **measure general ability:**

- Animated instructions remove the need for verbal comprehension of directions,
- Test questions that do not require academic knowledge,
- Verbal and Quantitative test questions that can be solved using any language,
- A multiple-choice response removes the need for verbal expression.



# Naglieri General Ability Tests

Three tests of general ability that measure how well a student can **think** to arrive at the answer rather than what they **know**.



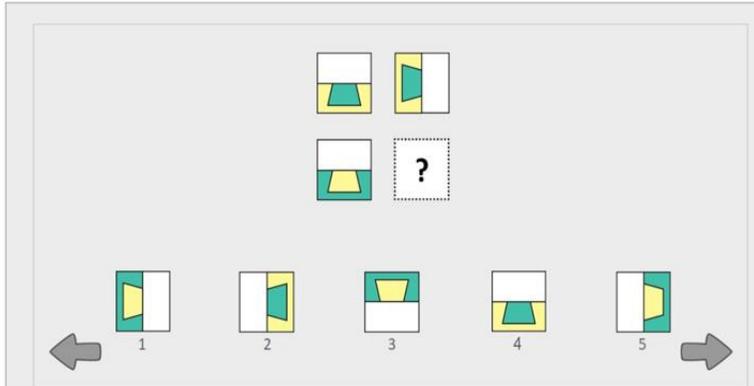
 **Naglieri** | Verbal  
General Ability Tests



1 2 3

4 5 6

 **Naglieri** | Nonverbal  
General Ability Tests



1 2 3 4 5

 **Naglieri** | Quantitative  
General Ability Tests



6 7 8 9 ?

12 10 13 9 11

A B C D E

# Three Research Studies (2022)

Selvamenan, M., Paolozza, A., Solomon, J., Naglieri, J. A., & Schmidt, M. T. (submitted for publication, 2022). Race, Ethnic, Gender, and Parental Education Level Differences on Verbal, Nonverbal, and Quantitative Naglieri General Ability Tests: Achieving Equity.

## • VERBAL SAMPLE

- 2,482 That closely matches the US population on key demographics

## • GENDER

- **No differences** between **males** and **females** for raw score across all forms

## • RACE/ETHNICITY

- **No differences** among **White, Black, & Hispanic** for raw score across all forms

## • PARENTAL EDUCATION LEVEL

- **No differences** among five education levels (**No high school diploma; High School graduate; Some college/Associate's degree; Bachelor's degree; Graduate/professional degree**) for raw score across all forms

## • NONVERBAL SAMPLE

- 3,630 That closely matches the US population on key demographics

## • GENDER

- **No differences** between **males** and **females** for raw score across all forms

## • RACE/ETHNICITY

- **No differences** among **White, Black, & Hispanic** for raw score across all forms

## • PARENTAL EDUCATION LEVEL

- **No differences** among five education levels (**No high school diploma; High School graduate; Some college/Associate's degree; Bachelor's degree; Graduate/professional degree**) for raw score across all forms

## • QUANTITATIVE SAMPLE

- 2,841 That closely matches the US population on key demographics

## • GENDER

- **No differences** between **males** and **females** for raw score across all forms

## • RACE/ETHNICITY

- **No differences** among **White, Black, & Hispanic** for raw score across all forms

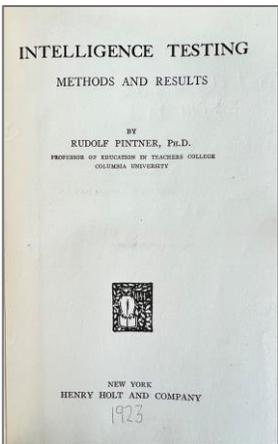
## • PARENTAL EDUCATION LEVEL

- **No differences** among five education levels (**No high school diploma; High School graduate; Some college/Associate's degree; Bachelor's degree; Graduate/professional degree**) for raw score across all forms

# General Ability Tests



"we did not start with a clear definition of general intelligence... [but] borrowed from every-day life a vague term implying all-round ability and... we [are] still attempting to define it more sharply and endow it with a stricter scientific connotation (Pintner, 1923 p. 53)".

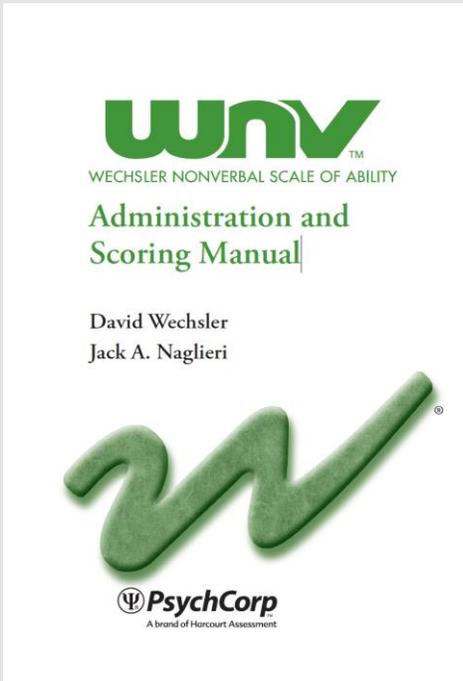


"The aggregate or global capacity of the individual to act purposefully, to think rationally, and to deal effectively with his environment (1939)"

**General Ability**  
**not verbal or nonverbal intelligences !**



The emphasis in the *WNV Manual* that the Full Scale measures *general ability nonverbally*—and *not* nonverbal ability—ties the WNV to Dr. Wechsler



Dr. Wechsler remained a firm believer in Spearman's *g* theory ... He believed that his Verbal and Performance Scales represented different ways to access *g*, but he never believed in nonverbal intelligence as being separate from *g*.

He saw the Performance Scale as the most sensible way to measure the general intelligence of people with ... limited proficiency in English.

Quotes from Alan S. Kaufman in the Wechsler Nonverbal Manual; Wechsler & Naglieri (2006)



Journal Information  
Journal TOC

PsycARTICLES: Journal Article

Structural validity of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children–Fifth Edition: Confirmatory factor analyses with the 16 primary and secondary subtests.

© Request Permissions

Canivez, Gary L., Watkins, Marley W., Dombrowski, Stefan C.

Canivez, G. L., Watkins, M. W., & Dombrowski, S. C. (2017). Structural validity of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children–Fifth Edition: Confirmatory factor analyses with the 16 primary and secondary subtests. *Psychological Assessment*, 29(4), 458–472.

<https://doi.org/10.1037/pas0000358>

- ...The small portions of variance uniquely captured by [subtests]... render the group factors [scales] of questionable interpretive value independent of g (FSIQ general intelligence)
- Present CFA results confirm the EFA results (Canivez, Watkins, & Dombrowski, 2015); Dombrowski, Canivez, Watkins, & Beaujean (2015); and Canivez, Dombrowski, & Watkins (2015).

# Support for 'g'



- The results of this study indicate that most **cognitive abilities specified in John Carroll's three-stratum theory have little-to-no interpretive relevance** above and beyond that of general intelligence.

# Research Supports 'g' but little More

Watkins, M. W., & Canivez, G. L. (2021). Assessing the psychometric utility of IQ scores: A tutorial using the Wechsler intelligence scale for children–fifth edition. *School Psychology Review*, 1-15.

Benson, N. F., Beaujean, A. A., McGill, R. J., & Dombrowski, S. C. (2018). Revisiting Carroll's Survey of Factor-Analytic Studies: Implications for the Clinical Assessment of Intelligence. *Psychological Assessment*, 30, 8, 1028–1038.

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Canivez, G. L., & McGill, R. J. (2016). Factor structure of the Differential Ability Scales–Second Edition: Exploratory and hierarchical factor analyses with the core subtests. *Psychological Assessment*, 28, 1475-1488.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pas0000279>

Canivez, G. L. (2008). Orthogonal higher order factor structure of the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales-Fifth Edition for children and adolescents. *School Psychology Quarterly*, 23, 533–541.

Dombrowski, S. C., Canivez, G. L., & Watkins, M. W. (2017, May). Factor structure of the 10 WISC–V primary subtests across four standardization age groups. *Contemporary School Psychology*. Advance online publication.

Dombrowski, S. C., McGill, R. J., & Canivez, G. L. (2017). Exploratory and hierarchical factor analysis of the WJ IV Cognitive at school age. *Psychological Assessment*, 29, 394-407.

McGill, R. J., & Canivez, G. L. (2017, October). Confirmatory factor analyses of the WISC–IV Spanish core and supplemental Subtests: Validation evidence of the Wechsler and CHC models. *International Journal of School and Educational Psychology*. Advance online publication.

Watkins, M. W., Dombrowski, S. C., & Canivez, G. L. (2017, October). Reliability and factorial validity of the Canadian Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children–Fifth Edition. *International Journal of School and Educational Psychology*.

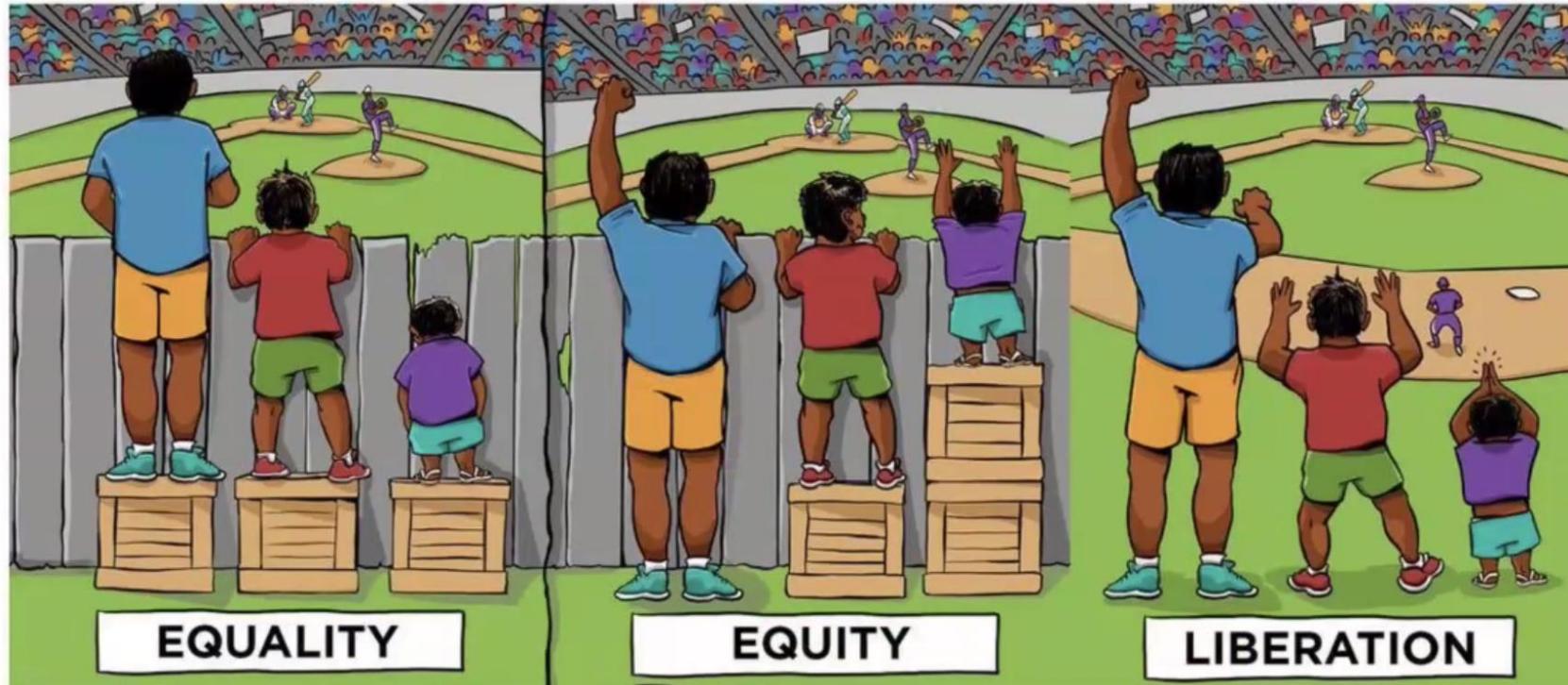


# What is the Practical Impact?

Focus on General Ability because Verbal, Nonverbal, Quantitative and other scales on intelligence tests are NOT different types of intelligence



*Don't just tell a different version of the same story.*  
**Change The Story!**



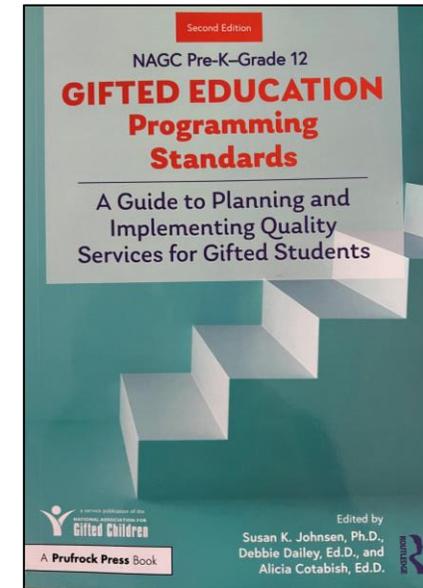
# NAGC Professional Standards

2.2. *Identification.* Students with gifts and talents are identified for services that match their interests, strengths, and needs.

2.2.5. Educators select assessments that minimize bias by including information in the technical manual that describes content in terms of potential bias, includes norms that match national census information or local populations, shows how items discriminate equally well for each group, and provides separate reliability and validity information for each group.

2.3. *Identification.* Students with identified gifts and talents represent diverse backgrounds.

2.3.1. Educators select and use equitable approaches and assessments that minimize bias for referring and identifying students with gifts and talents, attending to segments of the population that are frequently hidden or underidentified. Approaches and tools may include front-loading talent development activities, universal screening, using locally developed norms, assuring assessment tools are in the child's preferred language for communication, or nonverbal formats.



# Summary: Equitable Assessment of Intelligence

- **Equitable evaluation of intelligence** demands test questions that can be solved regardless of the amount of academic knowledge and facility with language a student has
- We have shown that
  - General ability (*g*) **can be measured equitably** across Verbal, Quantitative and Nonverbal content if the tests do not require academic knowledge
- Verbal, Quantitative and Nonverbal are **a description of the content of the tests'** questions **NOT** different types of intelligence
- Equitable tests measure THINKING in a manner that is minimally influenced by KNOWING



We do the best we can with what we know, and when we know better, we do better.

— *Maya Angelou* —

Change  
Demands  
Courage to  
Think  
Differently

**Socially just identification of gifted students requires self-reflection and self-correction in response to current research**

# FINAL THOUGHTS!

dreamstime.

