

The "facts" offered by opponents of evolutionary science are indeed a danger, because they are not facts—radiometric dating grossly in error, no fossil forms intermediate between existing species, "Darwinism" not accounting for complexity, the Grand Canyon formed in the Noachian flood, the Paluxy River "footprints," and the like. And as one commentator has observed, creationists *can* tell more lies in "debate" than an honest disputant can skewer. Nevertheless, the advice given by Eugenie Scott of the National Center for Science Education—that individual scientists should probably not enter debates—is self-defeating. If not scientists, then who? The claim that to enter such debates is demeaning, or is a lost cause, or might harden the opposition, is an invitation to quietism. It is the same advice as that given, for too long, to opponents of animal rights extremism. It is bad advice.

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The oxymoron of "creation science" is as farcical as are the terms "abrupt appearance theory." It is distressing that creationists' bills use tactics to intimidate teachers and their job security to the point that evolu-

tion is not taught, or worse that the teachings provide misinformation. It is also unfortunate that creationists continue to prey on the young and ignorant.

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Charges of Anti-Semitism

Constance Holden's article "Publisher draws censorship charge" (News, 12 July, p. 177) is a concise and accurate synopsis of a protracted and nasty series of events. Although charges of anti-Semitism against me are wrong, they are also understandable. My review (1) of Kevin MacDonald's excellent book, *A People That Shall Dwell Alone: Judaism as a Group Evolutionary Strategy* (2), made unrealistic assumptions about readers' familiarity with issues at hand, and so drew conclusions based on inadequately supplied information.

Unfortunately, one way to make charges of anti-Semitism stick is to publish a submission that draws such charges, then refuse to publish a rejoinder (3) that apologizes for shortcomings, attempts to clarify misunderstandings, and refers readers to ad hoc sources of relevant information (4). Five

editorial board members of *Ethology and Sociobiology* judged my rejoinder to be such a submission, but the journal's publisher, Elsevier Inc., still refuses to publish it.

I ask interested readers to withhold judgment until they have a fuller explanation of my views—which can be obtained (including a copy of the accepted-but-censored addendum) by forwarding an address label to the address below.

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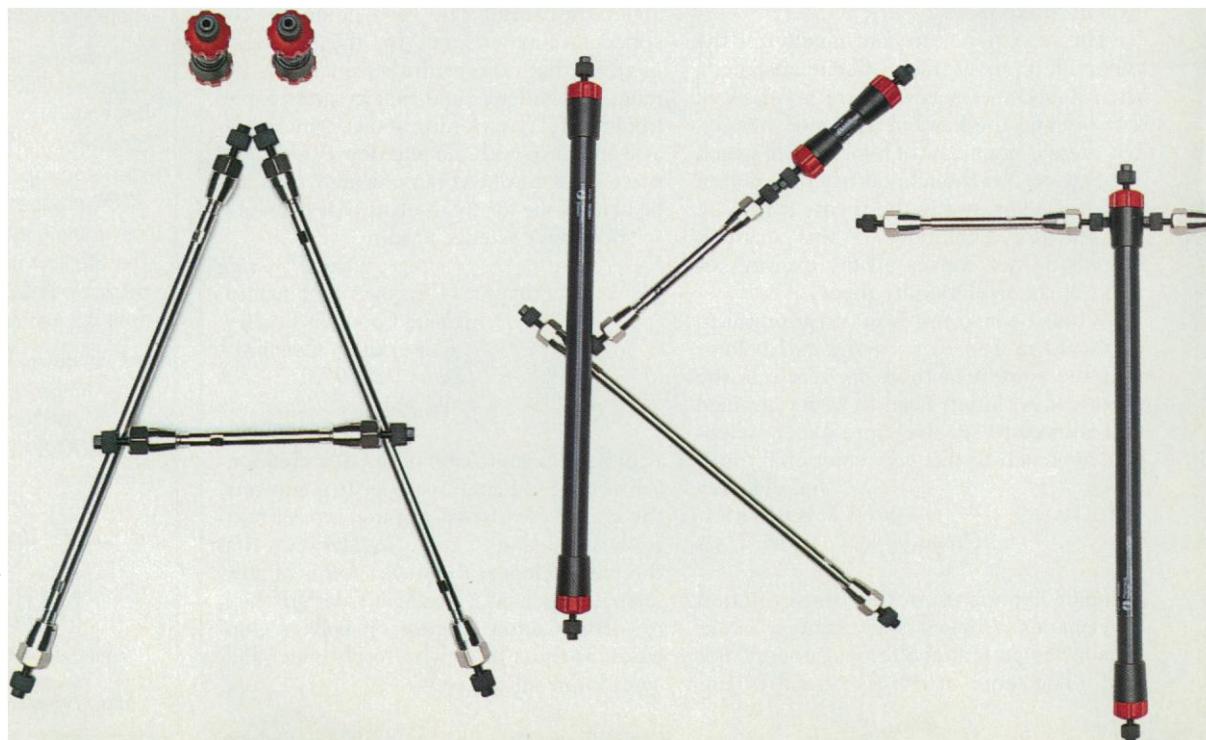
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1. J. Hartung, *Ethol. Sociobiol.* **16**, 335 (1995).
2. K. MacDonald, *A People That Shall Dwell Alone: Judaism as a Group Evolutionary Strategy* [Praeger (Greenwood), Westport, CT, 1994].
3. _____, in preparation.
4. _____, *Skeptic* **3**, 86 (1995); *ibid.* **4**, 24 (1996); *ibid.*, p. 62.

Tobacco Research: One Researcher's Experience

James F. Glenn's statement (Letters, 12 July, p. 167) that "CTR [the Council for Tobacco Research] has always encouraged

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investigators to publish results of research, whether favorable or unfavorable to the tobacco industry" contradicts my personal experience when the CTR, through Robert Hockett, then its director of research, and E. Jacob, then its lawyer, came to call on me and threatened that "we would never get another penny from CTR" if we published a paper, submitted for their approval, reporting that inhaling cigarette smoke caused laryngeal cancer in a certain inbred Syrian hamster. This happened in the early 1970s after our research at Tufts University and at the Bio-Research Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts, had received continuous support since the early 1950s from CTR totaling more than \$800,000.

As a witness in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, I have stated in detail and under oath what happened (1). When I presented our results at a conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, before our paper appeared, a scheduled press conference to follow my paper was sabotaged (according to a later boast by a CTR public relations person in an internal memorandum of a tobacco company). We never received another penny from CTR after we published our paper in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in October 1974 (2).

Continued research was made possible by support from a British consortium of the Celanese Company and British tobacco companies, as well as the British Hunter Committee, which found our method useful to evaluate the relative carcinogenicity of cigarette smoke.

Glenn's statement may be true for the more recent phases of CTR activity, but studies implicating cigarette smoke as a health hazard have not been getting support from CTR or are limited to projects with predictably negative outcome, such as having mice inhale cigarette smoke that kills them because of their sensitivity to nicotine before carcinogenic doses are reached.

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References

1. U.S. District Court of New Jersey, Civil Action No. 83-2864(SA), *A. Cipollone vs. Tobacco Companies*, Litigation Document 3.6 TPLR 3.431-3.467, Newark, NJ, 19 January 1987.
2. P. Bernfeld, F. Homburger, A. B. Russfield, *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.* **53**, 1141 (1974).

Chernobyl Analysis

I would like to comment on Richard Stone's fine article of 19 April (*Special News Report*, p. 352). My visits to Chernobyl to conduct the research for and prepare "The Chernobyl 4 Accident Sequence: Update—April 1995" (1) and the work reported on was supported by the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, foundation grants, and me. The background to the report is contained in the introduction by Academician V. G. Baryakhtar, Vice President of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (UNAS).

The report (1) provided and discussed estimates of the fuel in the lava. The source of most of the lava information contained in the report was Edward Pazukhin of UNAS's Intersectoral Scientific and Technical Center and the Khlopin Radium Institute. Current estimates of the fuel in the lava range from about 27 tons to more than 130 tons [the referenced paper (2) was presented at "Sarcophagus Safety '94" by C. Gotovchits (head of the Ukrainian MinChernobyl) and N. Steinberg (chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Nuclear and Radiation Safety)]. The wide range of the estimates is cited in the report as a key uncertainty. Although I told Stone

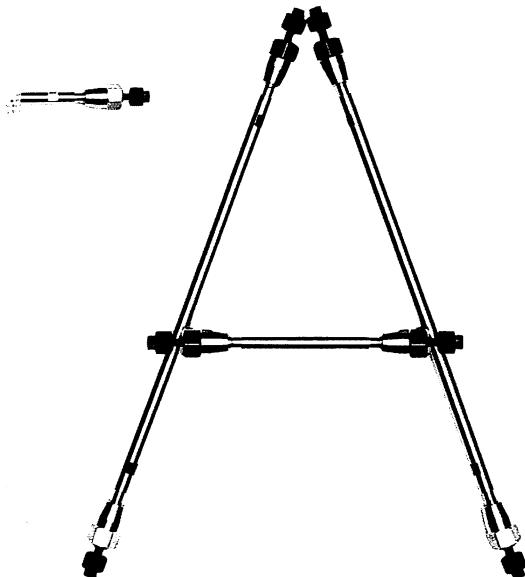
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