The Smart Culture

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This is, first of all, very much an interdisciplinary effort, and some of the disciplines are not my own. For the science in particular, I have depended on the work of those scholars who have made contemporary understandings accessible to the general public. Ned Block, Stephen Jay Gould, Leon Kamin, and R. C. Lewontin are the most conspicuous examples, but as the notes will indicate, there are others too. Burton Blatt’s work exposed the myths of mental retardation, and my own earlier inquiries into that topic benefitted especially from the works (and kind encouragement) of Paul Lombardo and Alexander Tymchuk and the counsel of Fred Rich. My more recent efforts to sift through the primary literature were assisted by a number of doctoral students in psychology at Widener University: at various times, I have benefitted from the research assistance of Ann Christie, Leonard Goldschmidt, and David Nickelsen. Professor Susan Goldberg of Widener University and Professor Martin Levit at the University of Missouri-Kansas City reviewed drafts of selected chapters in an effort to make sure that the science was not obviously wrong; they deserve, of course, no blame for any lingering errors.

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