



August 23 ,2006

Dear Dean Svend Hylleberg:

We are writing to protest the treatment that Dr. Helmuth Nyborg has been subjected to for his research into sex differences in general intelligence. Dr. Nyborg is a highly-regarded research psychologist who enjoys a well-deserved international reputation for his work. He has published numerous research articles and book chapters dealing with sex differences in cognitive abilities and is one of a handful of scholars world-wide who is regarded as a definitive expert in this area.

As co-editors-in-chief of the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*, which journal published the article that you created a committee to investigate (Nyborg, H. (2005) Sex-related differences in general intelligence, g, brain-size, and social status. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 39, 497-509), we have to put forward that, before it was accepted for publication, Dr. Nyborg's paper was reviewed by two other scientists who are themselves experts in the areas of sex-differences and statistical data-analysis. Without revealing their identities, here are some quotes from their reviews: "The authors present convincing evidence of i) brain size-IQ and brain size-g correlations and ii) present data that the sex difference in brain size may explain some of the variance in sex difference in IQ and g"; "This manuscript will be important to the study of individual differences in human intelligence, and may spark additional research in the area of sex differences"; and both reviewers noted that the paper contains important new material, is original and creative, and has no serious faults in statistical treatment or in methodology.

We understand that the Institute, as employer of Dr. Nyborg, was free to form a committee to re-examine this paper and to judge its merits, but it gives us the impression that there was no justification for this other than that Dr. Nyborg chose to research a topic that some might consider to be controversial this notwithstanding the report of the committee, which we have read. However, as academics yourselves, you will evidently also support the right of your faculty members to academic freedom, no matter how controversial their interests may be viewed by others. We can only emphasize the fact that we are of the opinion that Dr. Nyborg's paper has gone through a thorough peer review process which we think should have been taken into account when re-examining the above paper published in the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*.

Sincerely,

Tony Vernon, Sybil Eysenck, and Gisli Gudjonsson
Co-Editors-In-Chief, *Personality and Individual Differences*

Elsevier Limited The Boulevard, Langford Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB, UK
Tel +44 (0) 1865 843000 | Fax +44 (0) 1865 843010 | www.elsevier.com

Registered Office: The Boulevard, Langford Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB, UK | Registered in England, reg. no. 1982084 | vat no. 494 6272 12