The Growing Human Nature Bibliography...

A Gia-Pet watered by students of this study (Many of these references can be found in the books section of Amazon.com, others through databases and the University Library; comments are from the contributor). The bibliography is divided up by books and articles, broad-based websites, paintings, poems, movies, radio and television, and museums.

Last update: August 6, 2010

Books and Articles:


Aesop (exact dates unknown). Aesop's Fables. Multiple publishers

"Cloaked in animal stories and, often, silly situations, this was my first exposure to a literary approach to human nature, as it is for many. These tales have stood the test of time because they are digestible vignettes that ease one into learning."


Allison, D. & Faith, M., 2000: "Genetic and environmental influences on human body weight: Implications for the behavior therapist" Nutrition Today 35 No 1 18-21 Ja/F


This book focuses on the theories of intelligence as well as newly understood genetic factors and the influence of nurture on intelligence.


Baily, Ronald; Gillespie, Nick; Biology vs. the Blank Slate, Reason, Oct 2002, Vol. 34 Issue 5, p48. An interview with Steven Pinker on myths about the human mind.


The book provides an overview of diagnosis of autism spectrum and Asperger syndrome as well as possible biological and physiological causes, various treatments and available educational techniques.


Basic Information on Genes. http://www.bbc.co.uk/health/genes/basics


Biafra, Jello. Spoken word albums. [Spoken word albums]

Bilger, B. "The Height Gap", New Yorker magazine, April 5, 2004

URL: http://www.newyorker.conVprintable/?fact/040405fa-fact

Bjerklie et al, 2002: "Cracking the fat riddle" TIME 160 No 10 46-53 S2


Bower, B. Fifth obesity gene found in mice (the mutated gene 'tubby' found in obese mice) (Brief Article), Science News April 27, 1996 volume 149, number 17 page 269


Dr. Richard Bucke was an eminent psychologist and coined the phrase Cosmic Consciousness, which suggests that humanity is in the process of evolution from self-centeredness to that of a cosmic consciousness. It provides a broad survey of many theories of human nature and the author compares and contrasts huge volumes of work from the major world religions, metaphysical theories, and psychology.

Oxford University Press. (A compilation of twenty articles addressing the beginnings of evolution and culture built on two ideas: to understand human culture, one must first understand the nature of culture; and, 'culture is part of biology: the capacity to acquire and transmit culture is a derived component of human psychology and the contents of culture are deeply intertwined with our biology."


Bradly, H. Genetics and Racism: The Troubled Helix. Social and psychological implications of the new human genetics


The MIT Press. (Rejects claims of evolutionary psychology and says, 'we cannot apply evolutionary theory to human psychology" and "that the conventional wisdom in evolutionary psychology is misguided.)


Joseph Campbell uses myths to demonstrate the timeless, universal pull of human nature. His writings on the internal yearning one feels for fulfillment are quite eloquent and speak to many. George Lucas of Star Wars fame is a huge fan of Joseph Campbell, and Star Wars is a good example of Campbell's mythical archetypes.


This is a wonderfully written book about writing, which, according to the author, is a behavior that is part of our human nature that many of us ignore.


Don't let the title fool you. This book is all about human nature, and how it molds us to be who we are, in both good ways and bad.


Important study identifying defective gene which, along with stress, can cause depression.


Clement, Pierre; Forissier, Thomas. Teaching Biological Identity as Genome/Environment Interactions. Journal of Biological Education. 2003


A historical fiction about the biblical life of Dinah, Jacob’s daughter, and her experiences with her mother and Jacob’s other three wives. The book illustrates the quality of strength of
character in human nature which was vital to survival particularly in a society where women had little power.


Diamond, Louise. The Peace Book... simple ways to create a more peaceful world.

DiBattista, J.D. Patterns of genetic variation in anthropogenically impacted populations. Conservation Genetics, 9: 141-156.


Earl, M.K. "Nature vs. nurture: how much free will do we really have? Trinity University. www.trinity.edu/mkearl/socpsy-2.html


Epigenetic Inheritance. Wikipedia. Wikipedia.org/wiki/Epigenetic-inheritance

Epigenetics? This website is brought to you by The Epigenome Network of Excellence, a European research network dedicated to supporting high
caliber science in the rapidly expanding field of epigenetics.  
http://www.epigenome.eu/

What is Epigenetics?  http://www.epigenome.eu/en/1,1,0


Francis, R.C. Why Men Won't Ask for Directions: The Seductions of  

French, Fred. Revisiting Nature vs Nurture: Implications for the  


Fukuyama, Francis (1999) The Great Disruption: Human nature and the  
reconstitution of the social order. London Free Press.

Fullerton, J. (2006, January). New Approaches to the Genetic Analysis of  
Neuroticism and Anxiety. Behavior Genetics, 36(l), 147-161.


are. New York: Random House, Inc.

Good, informative book with a lot of information regarding the gene-  
environment interaction.

The author explores the human condition by examining the  
biological, psychological, and the highly social nature of the  
species.

Norton and Co. Genetic research from around the world. http://www.nationaljewish.org/scientific2.html


Goodman, Susan E. (2003) Nature Did It First! Brookfield, Conn.: Millbrook Press. This is a great books for kids as well as adults, using photographs to show the connections between nature and humans with regard to origins of man's inventions


This a guided tour of the anatomy and physiology of the brain and includes a description of molecular biology and the entire nervous system's developmental stages from fertilization to full development of the lifespan. It is easy to read and understand and provides a strong foundation for anyone who wants to learn more about genetic and environmental influences.


Although fictional, this humorous and touching story is written through the perspective of a person with autism, describing the personality quirks of autism as well as how it affects people around him.

Hall, B. K. Olson, W., Keywords and concepts in evolutionary developmental biology (2003) New York, NY: Harvard University Press


Hemingway, E. The Old Man and The Sea.


Association between glutamic acid decarboxylase genes and anxiety disorders, major depression, and neuroticism. Molecular Psychiatry, 11 (8), 752-762.


Hoffer, Erik. The True Believer: Thoughts on the Nature of Mass Movements.


Holy Bible: King James Version by World Bible PublishingWorld Bible Pub Co; (June 1989)


The story is historical fiction set in Afghanistan in the early 1970’s and depicts both the loving and cruel sides of human nature.


The story begins in 1974 in Afghanistan and recounts the experiences and emotions of two women whose story demonstrates that hope and happiness can exist under the worst possible for women.


Human Nature: An Interdisciplinary Biosocial Perspective

An online subscription journal that, as its title suggests, contains academic writings relevant to an understanding of human nature. Examples: "Humor and Sexual Selection", "The Small World of Shakespeare's Plays". URL: www.archaeoworld.convjournals/humanNature/

The Human Nature Review (http://www.human-nature.com)


Human Nurturome Project. The Nurturome Breakthrough.

Hume, D. A Treatise of Human Nature. A free downloadable copy is available from the Project Gutenberg web site:
http://www.gutenberg.net/etext/4705


Irving, John. A Pray for Owen Meany.


Article that talks about the similarities of human and chimpanzee infants, but also what makes us so different.


Good article exploring the interaction of gene-environment on an eating disorder. Gives evidence of a good study as well.


Kopala, M. (October 9, 2007). “Reefer Madness>” Canadian Medical Association


Lee, Harper To Kill A Mockingbird


Long before the delay of the "Baby Bjorn," there was Jean Liedloff exploring cultures in which mothers carried their children throughout the day. A must read for anyone carrying their baby around in a sling.


Marcus covers the evolution of the human "mental genes." He talks about genes that influence our mental processes as "flexible recipes" that change with experiential and environmental pressures.

Marino, S., (2000). We were made to innovate. Industry Week, 249(3). retrievable from DePaul Libraries.


Mayo Clinic. Mental Illness: An interview with a Mayo Clinic psychiatrist.


Miller, G. "Evolution of Human Music through Sexual Selection." URL: http://www.unm.edu/~psych/faculty/music.htm


Montessori, Maria The Absorbent Mind.

Not the easiest Montessori book to read, but the most insightful into human nature and the unfolding of the child into the man he will become.


This is a good article on the cells and molecules that Reward Pathway and that make up the Reward Pathway in the brain. Explains how different drugs (cocaine versus heroin versus alcohol) trigger different brain
activity. Explains how the high and the craving affect work in concert to produce long-term addiction.

Netting, J., 2001: "Gene variations police the storage of fat" Science News 159 No 22 342 Je 2


URL: www.newscientist.com/vhottopics/humannature/


Olson, P.; Chimp handedness linked to genetics, birth order, Emory Report, March 5, 2001.


This is a great book. The main focus is experiential psychology, but factored in is how human nature affects what we think, feel, and perceive.


Pasternak, Boris. Dr. Zhivago


Actually, any version of Socrates' writings will do. It seems that the purpose of his entire existence was the in-depth, and sometimes annoying, study of human nature. His looping question within question style can get old, but you can't deny that the man is proposing relevant subjects for study.

Plato (date unknown) Plato's Republic, Many His comments on human nature within the different types of governments are still true today. See his comments on bankers and their "poison loans" within democratic societies.


Psychology Today -10 Politically Incorrect Truths About Human Nature http://psychologytoday.com/Articles/pto-20070622-000002.xml


Rand, Ayn... any of the novels.


This may be a stretch but he clearly helps people change their nature.


This book has served as a guiding light for many. The main premise is that we are shaped by human nature, which affects us in a number of unseen ways. These ways, however, can be recognized and re-routed. This is a necessary step in helping us find true happiness and fulfillment.


Sanford, J.C., (2005) Genetic Entropy & the Mystery of the Genome (Paperback), ILN
Darwin in reverse; a different look at evolution, small changes and regression to the mean.


Article describing how scientists are starting to disclose the neurobiological factors that underlying human behavior.


A collection of essays recalling hilarious and poignant memories of his childhood, as an adult writer in Europe, and a narrative about quitting smoking and moving to Tokyo.


Seppa, N, 2003: "Mutation shows in binge eaters" Science News 163 No 12 179


He may have been writing to amuse or to obliquely espouse political beliefs, but he was a student of human nature. All of his works capture the essence of what it is to be human. The situations he created serve to demonstrate human nature at both its most simple and most complex.


Find DUP25 in Patients with Anxiety Disorders, in Control Individuals, or in Previously Reported Positive Control Cell Lines. American Journal of Human Genetics, 72(3), 535.


Vaillant, G., Spiritual evolution (2008) New York, NY: Broadway Dr. George Vaillant a psychoanalyst, research psychiatrist, a pioneer in development psychology and Professor at Harvard University provides a scientific view of humanity’s spiritual evolution over time.


The Violence Inherent In The System?. Economist.(1993) Vol. 329


A memoir recalling the author’s life of being shuttled around from place to place and overcoming great hardships to carve out a successful life.


(Editorial) Am. Family Physician 73: 1336.


This book is a fabulous survey that compares and contrasts the theory of evolution with that of religion
and the creationists viewpoint. It discussed the view from evolutionary biology, social sciences, Calvinism, and suggests that forgiveness, morality and religion are complex adaptations. In this book, the author plays upon the similarities and strengths of both viewpoints by showing us how to think of society as an organism.


Wilson describes epigenesis from the perspective of C. H. Waddington, the scientist who first coined the phrase and developed it as a scientific process of research into the epigenetic nature of organisms.


URL: www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A8775-2004Feb26.htm


What if human nature is historical? http://human-nature.com/rmyoung/papers/paper61h.htm


BROAD-BASED WEB RESOURCES

Aggressivity and Violence: An Alternative Theory of Human Nature (George Mason University).

http://www.gmu.edu/academic/pcs/clark.hm (Mary Clark)

Autism Society of America. www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer


Genetics Online. www.genetics.org

Great Debate, The Website located August 15, 2008
http://www.thegreatdebate.org.uk/

Cited from the website, “The Great Debate website Welcome to The Great Debate website. The Great Debate is the overarching title for a series of courses, day schools, public discussions and workshops on topics including Darwinism, human nature, the human mind, consciousness, development, sustainability and environmental thought. The Great Debate is committed to education, discovering knowledge and developing informed opinion through discussion and research.”

Human Genome Project Information..ELSI
National Institutes of Health Information On Genetic Conditions and Gene/Chromosome Associations:

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease --provides information on the treatment and prevention of infectious disease, immunologic, and allergic disease with neat information on grants. http://www.niaid.nih.gov

The American Journal of Bioethics... journals providing the study of moral issues in the fields of medical treatment and research http://www.bioethics.net

Brooklyn College's "Science at a Distance" provides much information regarding genotype to how DNA is replicated; also cool interactive learning activities http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu

Center for Disease Control --impact of human genetic research on disease and prevention http://cdc.gov/genomic/update/current.htm

Howard Hughes Medical Institute http://www.hhmi.org/research/index.html, Has many biological, genetic, and psychological research projects.

MyDNA.com... provides genetic information on the human genome and its impact on health, disease, and society. http://www.myDNA.com

National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)... information on genetic counseling profession, including guiding principles

http://www.nsgc.org
Pharmacogenomic DNA Vision. information on the study of differential gene expression as applied to drug discovery and optimization


University of Utah Genetic Science Learning Center. an outreach education program with the mission to help people understand how genetics affects their lives and society. To achieve this mission, they present education offerings for various audiences, including: interactive and print-based resources (free of charge); various teacher resources; national and Utah state standards for science education.
http://gslc.genetic.utah.edu


PAINTINGS:


Bosch, Hieronymus. The Garden of Delights.

Brueghel, Peiter II. A Village Festival in Honour of St. Hubert and St. Anthony.
Degas, Edgar. The Glass of Absinthe. Gauguin, Paul. Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?

Munch, E. (1893). The Scream [painting].

This may be a personal observation, but as much as any painting, this seems to reflect human nature to me. The scene on the bridge in the painting is sedate and calm, with the sole exception being the main figure, clearly in trauma. The juxtaposition of these two components speaks of our internal chaos in the midst of seeming calm.

Renoir, Pierre-Auguste. "Le Moulin de la Galette." (1876)

Seurat, Georges. "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte." (1884-86)

Touluse-Lautrec, Henri. At the Moulin Rouge.

**PLAYS:**

Albee, Edward. "The Zoo Story" (1958)

Hansberry, Lorraine. "A Raisin in the Sun" (1959)

Shakespeare, William. "Richard Ill."


**POEMS:**


Whitman, Walt. Song of Myself.
MOVIES:


American History X


This film is really a character study in human nature. It explores the themes and consequences of love, loss, guilt and forgiveness. I'm certain that I viewed this film differently due to my work in this class.

Apocalypse Now (1979) Francis Ford Coppola, Director.


This incredibly brilliant animal story is a metaphor for many aspects of nature and nurture. It starts with each animal on a farm maintaining its expected and genetic role until a precocious piglet has a life-changing effect on all of them. If you haven't seen it, you must!

Being John Malcovich: This movie explored being able to go inside John Malcovich's brain for 15 minutes so in exploring being someone else, you can appreciate yourself.


A biographical drama of prominent mathematician John Nash, and how he overcame years of suffering through schizophrenia to win the Nobel Prize.

The Boys from Brazil (1978) http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0077269/plotsummary


Joseph Campbell Sukhavati: A Mythic Journey (2005) Joseph Campbell Foundation A beautifully crafted movie that takes one on a mystical journey of mankind’s humanity as seen through the eyes of Professor Joseph Campbell. A must see.

Cinderella –Can the poor girl be an aristocrat?

Citizen Kane


Enemy Mine (1985) (Was also a book by Barry B. Longyear
Directed by Wolfgang Petersen; writing credits: Barry Longyear and Edward Khmara

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind: This film explored memory and defines it as what decides the meaning of our lives.

Gods Must Be Crazy, The.

Gone with the Wind

Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (1983) ... think about it, it's the ultimate nature-nurture

Hannah & Her Sisters

High Fidelity (2000)

House of Sand and Fog


One Stab narrating: Some people hear their own inner voices with great clearness and they live by what they hear. Such people become crazy, or they become legends.

Coronal Ludlow: Indians! Indians were the issue in those days. I can assure you, gentlemen, there is
nothing quite so grotesque as the meeting of a child with the a bullet; or an entire village slaughtered while sleeping. That was the Government's resolution of that particular issue and I have seen nothing in its behavior since then that would persuade me that it has gained either in wisdom, common sense, or humanity.

Lost in Translation.

The Matrix (1999), Warner Home Video
The characters (chance, consequence, hope, evolutions) are what makes up human nature.

Moonstruck

Music of the Heart


One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Ordinary People


Jesse Burns: Why is it the people who need the most help... won't take it?

Norman Maclean narrating: My father was very sure about certain matters pertaining to the universe. To him, all good things -trout as well as eternal salvation -came by grace; and grace comes by art; and art does not come easy.


Captain Miller to his discouraged troops, and then to one in particular threatening desertion: I'm a schoolteacher. I teach English composition... in this little town called Adley, Pennsylvania. The last
eleven years, I've been at Thomas Alva Edison High School. I was a coach of the baseball team in the springtime. Back home, I tell people what I do for a living and they think well, now that figures. But over here, it's a big, a big mystery. So, I guess I've changed some. Sometimes I wonder if I've changed so much my wife is even going to recognize me, whenever it is that I get back to her. And how I'll ever be able to tell her about days like today. Ah, Ryan. I don't know anything about Ryan. I don't care. The man means nothing to me. It's just a name.

But if... You know if going to Rumelle and finding him so that he can go home. If that earns me the right to get back to my wife, then that's my mission.

...

You want to leave? You want to go off and fight the war? All right. All right. I won't stop you. I'll even put in the paperwork. I just know that every man I kill the farther away from home I feel.
Seize the Day.

Andy Dufresne in a letter to Red: Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies.

Red narrating about his feelings toward Andy: I have to remind myself that some birds aren't meant to be caged. Their feathers are just too bright. And when they fly away, the part of you that knows it was a sin to lock them up does rejoice. Still, the place you live in is that much more drab and empty that they're gone. I guess I just miss my friend.

Sleuth


An underdog story depicting tragedy and victory as seen through the eyes of a Mumbai street child. The story describes his bitter yet sometimes loving relationship with his brother and a romance which began in early childhood.

The Stepford Wives

Streetcar Named Desire: This movie explores human nature and conflict between a married couple and the wife's sister.

Trading Places: In this movie, two wealthy bond traders make a bet that they can take a homeless con artist (Eddie Murphy) and make him successful and take a wealthy, successful bond trader (Dan Ackroyd) destitute simply by changing their environments.


Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971 version)

Whithering Heights (1939 version)

**RADIO and TELEVISION:**

Buffy the Vampire Slayer 6 Ep. 9 "Smashed" (Scene in the magic shop where Xander and Anya are talking to Buffy about Willow's behavior and explaining their take on human nature.

http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/s1372609.htm


My Name is Earl (NBC)


Seinfeld (syndicated)
Steinem, Gloria (August 2005) "A balance between nature and nurture."
NPR, All Things Considered. Online audio file:

Young, Emma (May 2000) "Nature versus nurture: The human code crackers."
BBC Online:
news.bbc.co.uk/l/hi/in-depth/sci-tech/2000/human-genomen60724

MUSEUMS:

Body Wars, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry
This is a fabulous display of biological commonality across species.

Field Museum of Natural History; Chicago, IL... online genetics, exhibits
such as "DNA to Dinosaurs,”

Commemoration of the 145th Anniversary of Charles Darwin's publication of
"The Origin of Species,".. and others.
This article is within the scope of WikiProject Bibliographies, a collaborative effort to improve the coverage of Bibliographies on Wikipedia. If you would like to participate, please visit the project page, where you can join the discussion and see a list of open tasks.

List. This article has been rated as List-Class on the quality scale. Mid.Â WikiProject Books. (Rated List-class).

Exclusive articles about Books. Your gift guide: Books for all kinds of readers, from TED. We’ve divided our gift guide into 6 categories; please click on each to be taken to that list: Biographies and memoirs
Books about business and professional growth