

## Could genetic castes form in America?

Everyone's talking about a new paper that analyzes data about assortative mating — the tendency of people to marry others like themselves — in the U.S.

I'm proud to announce that we're two steps ahead of the game here at RealClearPolicy. Last month, in our White Papers & Research section, we linked to this draft of a paper from Henry Harpending and Gregory Cochran. The paper asks: When there's assortative mating for a given trait, and that trait is at least partly genetic, what happens in future generations?

The answer: It depends on exactly how strong the mating pattern is and how genetic the trait is, but at least in theory these mating tendencies can harden into genetic castes quite quickly.

**Read the full, original story: [Assortative Mating: The Next Generation](#)**