

Viewpoint: Young far-right activists embrace 'scientific racism'

The pseudoscience of eugenics is making a comeback on the American right. In August, the *HuffPost* reporter Christopher Mathias [unmasked the Substack writer](#) and academic Richard Hanania as “Richard Hoste,” a pseudonym under which Hanania blogged for white-supremacist websites about the evils of “race mixing,” advocated for the sterilization of people with a “low IQ” and for the deportation of all “post-1965 non-White migrants from Latin America,” and declared that “women’s liberation = the end of human civilization.” He also wrote a tribute to Sarah Palin in 2009, gushing that her candidacy had made the “ugly, secular and barren White self-hating and Jewish elite absolutely mad.”

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One explanation for the resurgence of scientific racism—what the psychologist [Andrew S. Winston](#) defines as the use of data to promote the idea of an “enduring racial hierarchy”—is that some very rich people are underwriting it. Mathias notes that “rich benefactors, some of whose identities are unknown, have funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars into a think tank run by Hanania.” As the biological anthropologist Jonathan Marks tells the science reporter Angela Saini in her book [Superior](#), “There are powerful forces on the right that fund research into studying human differences with the goal of establishing those differences as a basis of inequalities.”

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