Essay on studies on twins and in molecular biology

Psychology, Personality



Paragraph One

A controversy has always ensued among scientists over the issue of whether personality is influenced by nature or by nurture. Results from two types of recent research studies however favor the view on nature: Studies on twins and in molecular biology.

Paragraph Two

Results of a case study on Jim Springer and Jim Lewis, identical twins separated for 39 years from 5 weeks of age showed that the two exhibited the same personality. Provides evidence that it is nature and not nurture that significantly influences a person's personality.

Paragraph Three

The relative influence of nature versus nurture on personality is measured through the study of identical twins raised by different families. Personality traits of more than 2000 such twins have been studied so far. Numerous centers for these studies have also been established.

Paragraph Four

A myriad of behavioral traits believed to be closely linked to nature have been identified in the studies conducted on twins: Happiness, career choice, a person's vulnerability to stress, alienation amongst others.

Paragraph Five

Each cell in the human body is equipped with 23 pairs of chromosomes which contain the cell's DNA:

Each DNA strand is composed of over 3 billion nucleic components

Only 80000 of these nucleic components are believed to be functional.

Paragraph Six

Future advances in science are expected to facilitate the precise identification of the individual genes that control behavior traits. The processes of diagnosis and subsequent management of genetically linked diseases will therefore be performed with greater precision.

References

1. Colt, G. D. (1998). Were you Born that Way?