

The following article was found in a yellowed copy of "Scientific American" dated February, 1955:

Our Matriarchal Future?

By DreamTales

Is our traditional male dominated society an anachronism? Will the new roles of home and workplace put women on top for good?

"The fact is that women have been catching up to men in all forms of endeavor – physically, mentally, socially – for the past century." says Professor Emma Zonian, Chairwoman of Gender Studies at the Institute for Genetic Research. "However, our new studies indicate that we are currently undergoing a transformation of historic significance; beginning sometime around the turn of the millennium, women will physically surpass men and so assume their rightful role as the dominant gender in our species."

According to Dr. Marvin Magpie, who is assisting in the ground breaking study, the physical ascendance of women has been temporarily obfuscated due to other factors. Primary among these are changes in dietary habits, which have increased growth rates for both men and women. Driving the change is the integration of women into the workplace, as well as the widespread use of labor saving devices, the effects of which are just beginning to be seen on human physiology. Dr Magpie's research involved an exhaustive physical examination of hundreds of female college students, carefully measuring and cataloguing the vital statistics of each subject. The undertaking took several years and was completed only with the help of dozens of young male volunteers.

Professor Zonian points to a series of renderings that graphically illustrate the rapidly narrowing size differential between male and female prototypes. "If we factor out the effects of increased nutrition on overall human growth, what we find is that women have increased in stature by an average of 2% per decade since 1900, while the male physique has remained roughly static. Indeed, our data shows that, in the last few years, the height of the average male has actually begun to decrease. The most important factor is genetic: the male musculature was designed for efficient usage of strength, and the reduction in effort needed to survive in modern civilization inevitably creates a corresponding reduction in body size. We estimate that, in order to cope with the physical demands of modern society, the average male actually needs to be no larger than a small child."

However, the outlook for women is distinctly different. "Females will continue to need their full musculature for reproduction, and in the future will have to become ever more sexually attractive in order to provide sufficient stimulation for the increasingly weak and passive males. Therefore, as society becomes more sedentary, men will inevitably become ever smaller in stature, while women will become increasingly voluptuous." This last statement is pointedly illustrated by an artist's conception of a

typical American couple, circa 2060: a child sized man dwarfed by a woman whose nubile figure would make Marilyn Monroe proud.

While these predictions may seem far fetched, Professor Zonian, a statuesque blonde standing six foot two inches in her stocking feet, presents a uniquely compelling case. The possessor of a highly prestigious academic position in a traditionally male dominated field, the Princeton professor is herself a prime example of the newly ascendant woman in society.

“I come from a traditional culture of large, strong women,” she says, noting that in her ancestral homeland in rural Bulgaria women typically outgrow men and so have dominated local society for centuries. It was not unusual, she recalled, for her mother to discipline her diminutive father with a good spanking, while she and her girlfriends learned to compensate for the disadvantages of a poverty-stricken childhood by using their smaller older brothers as dress up dolls.

And how does the male of the species react to all of this? Dr. Magpie, a thin, affable man barely five feet tall, was at first reluctant to offer his opinion, but finally spoke up after prompting from his boss. “Normally I don’t like to mix subjective judgment with scientific research,” he said in his quiet, high voice, his thick glasses eye level with Professor Zonian’s prominent chest. “But there may be certain... advantages to this new order in society. After all, we men have been on top for millennia, and maybe now it’s time for the females to thrust themselves forward.”

Professor Zonian seemed to approve of this sentiment, as she leaned down and gave Dr. Magpie a maternal kiss on the top of his frizzy little head. She explained the gesture by noting that after publication of their findings the two plan to be married.

And who will wear the pants in the family? “Oh Marvin will, of course,” said Professor Zonian with a wink, reaching out and giving her colleague a playful pinch on his rear. “Unless I have to put him over my knees for some good Bulgarian discipline, that is!”

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