

SOCIOBIOLOGY

EGALITARIANISM

Human genetics has established that there are quite remarkable differences among the genomes of individuals. Does this render social egalitarianism impossible as it has so often been argued? No, for the following reasons. First, the genetic differences among individuals of the same species, e.g. ours, are small compared to the differences between them and members of other species: we differ only in detail. Second, such differences show only that primitive egalitarianism is not viable: they do not refute sophisticated egalitarianism, which treasures the individual differences and wishes to allow them to express and develop freely.

