

Nathan Cofnas

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“ Based Jew. @nathancofnas is both a race realist and a Jewish realist and no fan of the ADL. He's an Alt Right Jew trying to make the Alt Right better. A light unto the nations! Tikkun olam! Moshiach now! #613

”

—@lukeford^[1]

Nathan Cofnas is a quasi-alt-right pseudoscientist associated with the HBD ("human-biodiversity") movement.



Nathan Cofnas

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Background

Cofnas is a DPhil Philosophy student at the University of Oxford.^{[2][3]}

His CV on his website^[4] shows he's never had a job and oddly cites his non-academic webshite publications in the right-wing online magazine *Quillette* and conservative *National Review Online*. While he has published in peer-reviewed journals such as *The American Sociologist*^W, *Human Nature* and *Personality and Individual Differences* his co-authors include Islamophobes and eugenicists such as Noah Carl and Michael A. Woodley of Menie.

Pseudoscience

Cofnas is affiliated with the Ulster Institute for Social Research and attended the pseudoscientific London Conference on Intelligence in 2017 where he met Edward Dutton and has written a book published by the Ulster Institute for Social Research (reviewed by Michael A. Woodley of Menie, although he later withdrew it from publication).^{[5][6]}

The colorful pseudoscience Racialism



Hating thy neighbour

- Racism
- Racial pride
- Nationalism

Divide and conquer

- Amero
- Men Going Their Own Way
- Neo-Nazism
- Pioneer Little Europe
- Separate but equal

Dog-whistlers

- Boris Malagurski
- David Lane
- Gregory Cochran
- Kevin MacDonald
- William Luther Pierce

v - t - e

(<https://rationalwiki.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Race&action=edit>)

While Cofnas rejects anti-Semitism because he is Jewish^[7] and has debated Kevin MacDonald,^{[8][9][10]} he espouses many viewpoints shared by the alt-right such as anti-feminism, anti-left-wing/progressive politics, social conservatism, climate-change denial, hereditarianism, racialism and eugenics.

The author of the criticism of MacDonald's work, Nathan Cofnas, travels in the same intellectual circles as Edward Dutton, who wrote the pro-MacDonald response. The two men met a few years ago at the London Conference on Intelligence, an annual gathering where attendees reportedly talk about contentious (and largely disproven) topics like eugenics, IQ, and the biology of racial difference.

Both men also have ties to the Ulster Institute for Social Research, a small British think-tank that publishes reports on racial differences, human evolution, and IQ. The organization is run by Richard Lynn, a controversial scholar popular among those who argue that black people are inherently less intelligent than white people. Cofnas published a book with the Ulster Institute in 2012, which he has since withdrawn from publication — hoping, he says, to preserve it for inclusion in future work. Dutton told me that he receives funding from the Institute, where he is an affiliated scholar.^[11]

Climate change denial

Cofnas is sympathetic to climate-change denial, for example he questions the scientific consensus of anthropogenic (man-made) global warming^[12] and claims he disagrees with labelling climate-change denialists as pseudoscientists, furthermore he describes scientists who accept the evidence of anthropogenic global warming as "climate alarmists":

“ Big mistake to equate "climate change denial" w/ creationism. Evolution is one of the most successful theories in history supported by all evidence for 160 yrs. Climate alarmism is based on computer models w/ poor record of prediction and fake "consensus." ”

—@nathancofnas^[13]

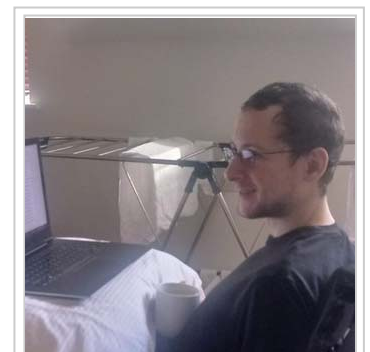
Hereditarianism and race

See the main article on this topic: race and intelligence

Cofnas formerly studied under [Neven Sesardić](#)^W. Like Sesardić, he identifies as a proponent of hereditarianism and "racial realism"^[14] (a term used by white nationalists like David Duke as well as the HBD online movement). He argues human races are valid biological categories against the scientific consensus they're not; he disagrees with the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (2019) Statement on Race and Racism:

“ The usual pseudoscience: race isn't real b/c we share 99.9% of our DNA & "a substantial body of research demonstrates" that race diffs are caused by "interpersonal" & "structural racism." ”

—@nathancofnas^[15]



Nathan Cofnas, "racial realist" keyboard warrior

In regards to the average IQ of Ashkenazi Jews, Cofnas defends the hereditarianism hypothesis opposed to environmental explanations:

“ Jews have a higher average IQ than gentiles because of genes, not because Jewish mothers train their children to be good at taking IQ tests. ”

—@nathancofnas^[16]

Science Is Not Always “Self-Correcting”

In 2015, Cofnas published an article^[17] in *Foundations of Science* that has been criticised for making misleading claims about race^[18] and distorting (cited) sources:

A Letter to Nathan Cofnas: Please Stop Misrepresenting my Research.

The February 2015 edition of your journal included a paper by Nathan Cofnas (Science is Not Always “Self-Correcting”) which referenced my 1988 article, “A New Look at Morton’s’ Research.” Unfortunately, Cofnas has misrepresented the conclusions of my paper to make it appear that my findings verified the craniological research and overall conclusions of Samuel George Morton. Although my re-measurements of the Morton collection of skull did indicate that Morton’s measuring technique generated data that was “reasonable accurate,” I also prominently noted that the way in which Morton classified human into races (as he defined the term race) was “meaningless.” Thus, Morton was measuring arbitrary subsets. As a result, his anthropometric research was pointless. Morton might as well have been accurately measuring the skulls of twenty-four categories of humans whose names began with different letters of the alphabet. **I am dismayed that Cofnas has failed to mention the most important aspect of my research. It is only recently that I found out Cofnas’ colleague, Neven Sesardic also misrepresented my work in a similar way in his 2005 book *Making Sense of Heritability*.**^[19]

Defence of Noah Carl

In December 2018, Cofnas defended Islamophobic pseudoscientist Noah Carl writing "Noah is a good guy"^[20] and ranting about left-wing academics:

“ This is the hill we must die on: We cannot allow Noah Carl to be fired/penalized for heresy. The left always wins in academia, not by winning arguments but by censoring & intimidating. Successful persecution of Noah would mean the end of free thought in the UK for a generation. ”

—@nathancofnas^[21]

Anti-vegetarianism

Cofnas is an anti-vegetarian and bizarrely argues vegetarianism is a form of political correctness.^{[22][23]}

Relation to alt-right

“ Ok, he's a racist but not a white nationalist. Glad we can all agree at last. Sorry for calling you a white nationalist Nathan, should have called you a hateful racist as*hole instead. Please accept my apology. ”

—@RealYeyoZa^[24]

Cofnas is right-wing, arguably racist, and shares many alt-right viewpoints (especially concerning race). He has claimed the alt-right has "some basis in logic and facts",^[25] but is critical of the alt-right for its anti-Semitism. In 2018 he co-wrote an article for *Quillette* criticising anti-Semitic conspiracy theories and Kevin MacDonald's literature.^[26] Co-author, Jonathan Anomaly is a eugenicist.^{[27][28]} Despite being Jewish, Cofnas dislikes the ADL and he opposes feminism and left-wing politics.^[29]

Cofnas is a fan of the philosopher Michael Levin^w^[30] who the SPLC describe as an "unabashed white supremacist".^[31]

On Twitter he follows alt-right individuals and white nationalists such as Emil Kirkegaard (whom he often retweets), Hbdchick, Lauren Southern, Stefan Molyneux and Steve Sailer.

External links

- @nathancofnas (<https://twitter.com/nathancofnas>) (Twitter)

References

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