

**RACE CULTURE; OR,
RACE SUICIDE? (A PLEA
FOR THE UNBORN)**

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Race culture; or, Race suicide? (a plea for the unborn) by Robert Reid Rentoul

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ROBERT REID RENTOUL

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FOR THE UNBORN)**

RACE CULTURE;

OR, RACE SUICIDE?

(A PLEA FOR THE UNBORN)

BY

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ASSOCIATION; WITNESS BEFORE THE SELECT COM-
MITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON
"DEATH CERTIFICATION," "REGISTRATION
OF MIDWIVES," AND EVIDENCE LAID
BEFORE THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON
THE CARE AND CONTROL OF
THE PEEBLE-BUNDED.



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Dedication.

TO

JOHN LAWRENCE AND DORCAS RENTOUL,

WITH FILIAL ADMIRATION AND RESPECT.

“As long as Almighty God shall give me life I shall still press forward to my avowed end of doing all the good I can in my calling.”

—THOMAS SYDENHAM, M.D.
(*Circa* A.D. 1624).

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INTRODUCTION.

NOT a pleasant subject to write upon.

This work is a second and enlarged edition of *Proposed Sterilization of Certain Mental and Physical Degenerates*, which I published in 1903. In it I called attention to the large and increasing number of the insane in the United Kingdom; to our disgraceful system of child-marriages; to the growing suicide rate; to our disgusting system of inducing certain mentally and physically diseased persons to marry; and to a slight operation which I was the first to propose as a means of checking the increase in the number of the insane, and in preventing innocent offspring from being cursed by some parental blemish.

The statistics which appear in the present work, although they are appalling to the thinking man and woman, must not be taken as a complete statement of actual conditions. The figures are obtained from official sources—the Census Returns and the Annual Lunacy Reports. It is well known that there are many thousands of mentally unsound persons in this country who would not be classed by lawyers as insane, and who therefore could not be legally certified by physicians. This fact is recognized by all physicians who have studied this question. Many criminals, neurotics, erotics, inebriates, drug *habitués*, kleptomaniacs, drunkards, borderland cases, "failures in life," and children who are mentally backward, mild epileptics, those suffering from severe chorea or migraine are mentally unsound, and will, when the struggle for life has to be made, degenerate into insane, even to an extent to satisfy lawyers! They are almost certain to propagate a degenerate stock.

To those who are constantly attempting to soothe the public ear to the cry of our poor degenerate class, and who foolishly tell the public that "all is well," I would point out that mental and physical diseases are on the increase; the number of lunatics, idiots, imbeciles, feeble-minded, epileptic, and mentally backward children is increasing;