

MODULE 63 STUDYING GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON INTELLIGENCE

TWIN AND ADOPTION STUDIES

- **HERITABILITY** is the proportion of variation among individuals that we can attribute to genes. The heritability of a trait may vary, depending on the range of populations and environments studied.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES

- Nowhere is the intertwining of biology and experience more apparent than in impoverished human environments. Genes and experience weave the intelligence fabric. Motivation effects our intelligence performance.

BE ABLE TO ANSWER: As society succeeds in creating equality of opportunity, it will also increase the heritability of ability. The heritability of intelligence scores will be greater in a society marked by equal opportunity than in a society of peasants and aristocrats. Why?

PRACTICE FRQ: Explain two environmental interventions that might help poverty-level schoolchildren develop better cognitive skills.