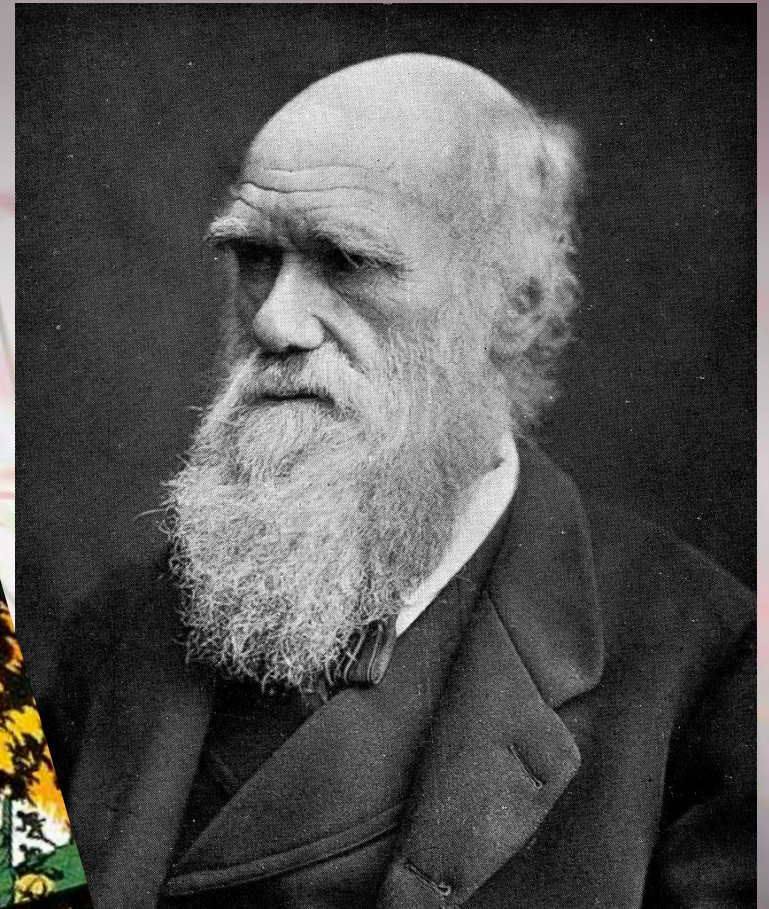


SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST



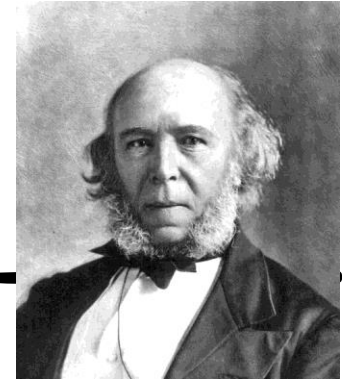
From Darwin to Hitler; Evolution to Eugenics.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- In 1859 Charles Darwin's book "The Origin of Species" is published.
- According to Darwin's theory of evolution, only the plants and animals best adapted to their environment will survive to reproduce and transfer their genes to the next generation.
- To try and convey this scientific theory to the general public, Darwin borrowed the phrases "Survival of the fittest" and "struggle for existence".
- The first phrase was borrowed from the work of Sociologist Herbert Spencer. The second phrase was borrowed from the work of Economist Thomas Malthus.



MALTHUS VS SPENCER



Economist - studied the Economy

Influenced the work of Darwin through his theories on the struggle of populations to survive when faced with a limited food supply.

(Darwin extrapolated it to all species and across a massive time span.)

Sociologist - Studied Society

- Opposed ANY laws which helped workers, the poor and those he decided were "genetically weak".
- Arguing that such laws went against the evolution of civilisation by delaying the "extinction of the unfit"
- Believed that people could genetically pass on learned qualities (such as morality) to their children.

SOCIETY AND SCIENCE - FAKE NEWS IN THE LATE 1800'S

- Although Darwin had ONLY borrowed the phrases "Survival of the fittest" and "struggle for existence" to help people understand his scientific ideas; to those who followed Spencer and Malthus, Darwin appeared to confirm with science what they already believed to be true about human society... That the fit inherited qualities such as industriousness and the ability to get rich, while the unfit were just lazy and stupid !



WHAT DO YOU
THINK?

Which factors affect your ability to become wealthy?

Is wealth distributed fairly in the world?
