



## INDIANA EUGENICS: HISTORY AND LEGACY, 1907-2007

A hundred years ago, the Governor of Indiana signed into law a bill passed by the state legislature that is widely regarded as the world's first eugenic sterilization legislation. This law, revised in 1927 to address constitutional issues, provided for the involuntary sterilization of approximately 2,500 of the State's most vulnerable citizens before it was repealed in 1974. To mark the centennial anniversary of this legislation, the following events on Thursday, **April 12, 2007** will provide a forum to reflect on the legacy and relevance of this history to current discussions on reproductive rights, applications of genetic science, and our best intentions to improve the lives of people in our communities.

**APRIL 12, 2007**

### **PUBLIC OPENING: "Fit to Breed? The History and Legacy of Indiana Eugenics, 1907-2007"**

An exhibit at the Indiana State Library, 140 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN  
*Free and open to the Public through August, 2007*

### **SYMPOSIUM: "History and Legacy of Indiana Eugenics"**

Indiana State Library

*Free and open to the Public; \*Registration recommended\**

**8:30AM - NOON:** [History Reference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor]

**Featured speaker: Daniel J. Kevles**, historian at Yale University; author of *In the Name of Eugenics: Genetics and the Use of Human Heredity*

**"Eugenics, the Genome, and Human Rights"**

**Featured Speaker: Joe Palca**, science correspondent for NPR

**"Can the Media tell Right from Wrong?"**

#### **Official Statements**

Representatives from Indiana State Government

#### **Public question and comment**

### **HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION**

Dedication of a new Historical Marker recognizing Eugenic legislation and repeal

**12:30PM - 1:00PM:** East Lawn of the Indiana State Library and Historical Building

*Free and open to the Public*

### **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: "Understanding State & Local Eugenics – Its Relevance to Contemporary Issues"**

Indiana State Library, [History Reference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor] – *Free and open to the Public*

Moderator: Barbara Lewis-West

**2:00 p.m.** Session I: Panelists include Daniel Kevles, Ph.D.; Joe Palca, NPR; Alexandra Stern, Ph.D.; Paul Lombardo, Ph.D., J.D.

**3:30 p.m.** Session II: Panelists include Molly Ladd-Taylor, Ph.D.; Peter Marcus, M.D.; Edward McCabe, M.D. Ph.D.; David Weaver, M.D.

\*For registration and further information, call 274-4740, email [jizukac@iupui.edu](mailto:jizukac@iupui.edu), or visit our website at: <http://www.bioethics.iupui.edu/Eugenics/index.htm>

Events sponsored by: Indiana University New Frontiers Grant, Program in Medical Humanities-Health Studies and Department of History, IU School of Liberal Arts, Herron School of Art and Design, Departments of Pediatrics and of Medical & Molecular Genetics, and the IU Center for Bioethics, IU School of Medicine.