

**Spencer, Herbert.** *First Principles* (1867). 2nd ed. (London: Williams and Norgate, 1867). {Retrieved from Online Library of Liberty}. {In the latter half of the nineteenth century, Spencer was in many circles more popular than Darwin, because he applied evolutionary theory to social issues in ways that seemed rational and scientific. It was all too easy to ‘explain’ human culture by quick reference to animal characteristics. A wide variety of equations were made, relating to physiology and physiognomy, illness, pregnancy and parenting, family culture, psychology and its related illnesses, etc. The human *body* thus became the locus for many representations of humanity, and the ‘science’ of biology became a discursive framework by which people could conceptualize the issues of the day. We can see this especially in Burroughs’ *Tarzan* and in Ogasawara’s *Eastern Breeze*.}

...The infant European has sundry marked points of resemblance to the lower human races; as in the flatness of the alæ of the nose, the depression of its bridge, the divergence and forward opening of the nostrils, the form of the lips, the absence of a frontal sinus, the width between the eyes, the smallness of the legs. Now, as the developmental process by which these traits are turned into those of the adult European, is a continuation of that change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous displayed during the previous evolution of the embryo, which every physiologist will admit; it follows that the parallel developmental process by which the like traits of the barbarous races have been turned into those of the civilized races, has also been a continuation of the change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous. {from §121}

The lowest form of language is the exclamation, by which an entire idea is vaguely conveyed through a single sound; as among the lower animals. That human language ever consisted solely of exclamations, and so was strictly homogeneous in respect of its parts of speech, we have no evidence. But that language can be traced down to a form in which nouns and verbs are its only elements, is an established fact. In the gradual multiplication of parts of speech out of these primary ones—in the differentiation of verbs into active and passive, of nouns into abstract and concrete—in the rise of distinctions of mood, tense, person, of number and case—in the formation of auxiliary verbs, of adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, articles—in the divergence of those orders, genera, species, and varieties of parts of speech by which civilized races express minute modifications of meaning—we see a change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous.... {from §123}