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Study suggests genes may affect feelings

of work satisfaction NEW YORK (AP) — Hate your job? Love your job? Part of the reason may be your genes, a study sug-

gests. By studying identical twins who grew up in different families, researchers found evidence that genes influence a worker's satisfaction with his job

That may be part of the reason some people seem happy no matter what they do, while others have trouble finding a satisfying job, in-dustrial psychologist Richard Arvey said

The findings do not suggest that people who dislike their jobs are ge-netically doomed to unhappiness at work. The apparent genetic impact is quite modest, and like other ge-netic influences it may be modifiable is quite modest, and like other ge-netic influences it may be modifiable by environment, Arvey said in a recent telephone interview.

The study is presented in this month's issue of the Journal of Applied Psychology by Arvey, a profes-sor at the Industrial Relations Center of the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, and university colleagues Lauren Abra-ham, Thomas Bouchard, Jr., and Nancy Segal.

Arvey said the study does not prove genetic influence over job sat-isfaction, but only supports the idea. He also noted that the study was small, and urged caution in applying the results to the general population. Two scientists who have studied

genetic influence on personality commented that the new findings fit in with previous research. John Loehlin of the University of Texas at Austin said other research suggests genetic influence on personality and temperament, and an effect on job satisfaction appears plausible.

Richard Rose of Indiana University in Bloomington said Finnish studies of twins have found evidence that genes may influence a person's job choice, satisfaction with life, and frequency of changing jobs for such reasons as dissatisfaction or being But psychologist Leon Kamin of Northeastern University, who has analyzed nature-vs.-nurture research, said Monday he was skeptical.

The reason for studying identical twins reared apart is that since twins in a pair share identical genes, but grow up in different environments, some similarities between them may reflect genetic influence.

But Kamin said previous studies showed twins reared apart tend to grow up in similar family environ-ments, which he said could explain such similarities as degree of job satisfaction.

The new study focused on 34 pairs of identical twins who had been separated at an average age of less than six months. They were not reunited until about age 32, on aver-

age. Twenty-five pairs were women Each twin completed a questionnaire about satisfaction with the "major job" in his or her life. Arvey said the job list was diverse, including research chemist, coal miner, assembly line worker, computer analyst, machinist, nurse and financial planner. Seventeen women said be-ing a housewife was their major job.

Comparing jobs held by each member of twin pairs, researchers found evidence that twins tended to hold jobs with similar degrees of mental complexity, physical demands and physical coordination requirements.

That finding supports the idea that genes also affect what jobs people seek, researchers said. But analysis showed it does not explain the ap-parent genetic influence on job satisfaction.

Arvey said there are several possible ways genes could influence happiness in the workplace. Affecting personality is a "very likely mechanism," he said.

Alternatively, genes may influence what people pay attention to in their job environment, such as supervision, he said, or they may affect what people want out of a job.

Court refuses to intervene in chemical controversy

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court on Monday refused to intervene in the controversy over Alar, rejecting attempts to revive a lawsuit by Ralph Nader and others aimed at banning use of the chemical on apples.

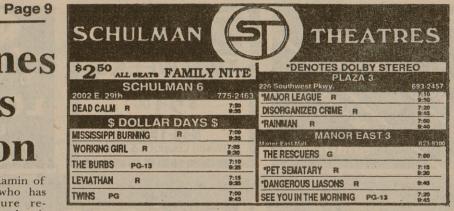
The suit, which the justices let die without comment, had sought to force the Environmental Protection Agency to immediately ban Alar, used primarily to enhance apples' color, ripening and shelf life. Critics of the chemical say it poses

a health hazard, particularly to children. Makers of apple juices and sauces say their tests show only tra-ces of Alar in only a tiny fraction of

The appeals court said the EPA could be exposed to a barrage of lawsuits if forced to go to court every time it denied a petition similar to the one submitted for Alar.

The "EPA could conceivably be forced to appear continually in ap-pellate courts defending regulations long established that parties failed to contest at the time of their promulgation," the 9th Circuit court said. "If Congress had intended such a re-sult, it is unlikely it would have prescribed a fixed deadline for appeals from regulations."

The Bush administration had urged the Supreme Court to reject the environmentalists' bid to revive

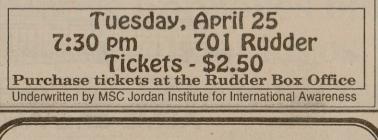


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In another matter, the court agreed to decide whether a federal judge has the authority to order Judge has the authority to order higher property taxes to help pay for racially desegregating public schools in Kansas City, Mo. The tax hike is designed to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to improve decay-ing, predominantly black city reheale

The court will hear appeals by state and county officials and school district taxpayers that U.S. District Judge Russell Clark acted improperly in doubling school property taxes and imposing an income tax surcharge.

The city's schools had been segregated under Missouri law until 1954. In the ensuing three decades, the percentage of blacks students in the system climbed from 22.5 to 67.7

percent. Clark ruled in 1987 that the school facilities had "literally rotted," ordered them upgraded and im-posed the tax hikes. District voters had rejected higher taxes six times from 1970 to 1983.

In the Alar case, some studies show the chemical — also called daminozide - can cause cancer in test animals.

The EPA has said that it intends to ban Alar, made by Uniroyal Chemical Co., but that such action could be years away. The EPA on Jan. 6, 1987, rejected

a plea by environmentalists and others, saying it lacked sufficient evi-

dence to order Alar off the market. Instead, 10 days later the EPA lowered by one-third the allowable amounts of the chemical that may remain as residues in apples. The new rule was designed as an interim measure to permit more time for the agency to study Alar's effects.

Nader and the others whose petition was denied by the EPA filed a federal suit aimed at forcing the agency to ban Alar.

Among those filing the suit were the advocacy group Public Citizen, which Nader founded; the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Ap-

peals last October threw out the suit for procedural reasons.

their suit.

Citizens who file petitions with the environmental agency should not be allowed to bypass administrative procedures established by federal law, Justice Department lawyers said

Abortion

(Continued from page 1)

was the rapist," Weddington said. Henry Wade was the district attor-ney of Dallas.

Weddington won part and lost part of her case in the lower courts, but appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. By the time the case was heard by the court, about 25 months later, Roe had carried the child and given it up for adoption. But Wed-dington said the issue had become less of a personal issue and more of national interest.

The abortion-rights issue is receiving national interest again with the scheduled hearing of Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services. Among other things, the case calls for the statement that life begins at conceptionand that abortion cannot be performed in hospitals. For the first time, the U.S. Justice

Department will be given ten minutes to argue in favor of overturning Roe vs. Wade. In normal situations, one 30-minute argument is presented by each side.

One of my theories is that three of the justices were appointed by the Reagan administration, and the fourth was made chief justice, giving them the four votes necessary for procedural changes," she said. "It could be just a courtesy to the administration, just to see what they have to say.

Weddington is a history and government lecturer at the University of Texas and Texas Women's University. She has served as General Counsel for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, lobbyist for the state of Texas and three-term legislator in the Texas House of Representatives.

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