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# A Study of Social genetics and Linguistic Inquiry

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## ABSTRACT

Human being on Earth has undergone several transitions during its history, from the fire age to modern technology. There has been notable progress in linguistic development and social development. Sociolinguistics and Social genetics as a newly emerging discipline have strong relationship and engaged with one another. This study focus on the critically analysis of social genetics and linguistic inquiry of human being regardless of anything. The objectives of the study were to introduce this complex idea to the biologists and linguists to reduce their racial biases and to make sense of social genetics and sociolinguistics are the major parameter of human race and genetics than hereditary genetics. The critical paradigm is used as paradigm of the study. Regarding techniques of data analysis, the qualitative approach is utilized in this study. Concerning data collection tools, the secondary data were collected from journals, findings of different researches, books, and proceedings. Therefore, this research is a desktop research. To mention some of the findings, the concept of hereditary genetics distinguish an individual or a group of individual from the other is a reputational way that triggers a misconception, and incorrect. The world outlook, and paradigm of the target speech community or an individual is not a consequence of hereditary genetics, rather this can be considered as a misconception of genetics. 99.9% of the DNA of two human is identical. But also, more than 99% of language of the world share same consonants and vowels. The phoneme chart of language of the world is almost the same. Therefore, ethnic conflict in different part of the world particularly Africa, Arab countries, and Asia has no theoretical and practical background. More explicitly, ethnic conflict among two races has no reason and a conflict between groups are those share 99.9% of the DNA and 99% of the linguistic characteristics.

**Keywords:** social genetics, sociolinguistics, proto-language, proto-world language

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of genetics has been described from different perspectives by scholars. These scholars try to present genome from both hard science and soft science in general. More explicitly, the concept is presented from biology, and sociology perspectives. This study attempted to assess the concept of social genetics from linguistics perspectives. Linguistics as a sub-field of humanities and interdisciplinary subject can be considered as a social genetics.

The researcher was interested in identifying the role of linguistics in social genetics on the one hand and genres of genetic science as a social genetics on the other hand.

In sociolinguistics the concepts language and related components of humanitarian entity such as culture, value, norms, assets, philosophy, wisdom, are acquired from the environment. This notion predominantly introduced in linguistics. Currently in the development of social genomics bringing together humanities, social science and genetic research in general and sociolinguistics, sociology and biology in particular.

Numerous scholars categorized human being based on color, language, shape of face, size of eye, position of nose and ear, color of hair and eye, type of hair, cognitive competence, and so on. However, this study tried to analyze critically the social genetics and linguistic inquiry of human being regardless of anything. Therefore, this research is a baseline study and unique in its approach.

The objectives of the study are as follows:

To introduce this complex idea to the biologists and linguists to reduce their racial bases.

To make sense of social genetics and sociolinguistics are the major parameter of human race and genetics than hereditary genetics.

## 2. Literature Review

Numerous research finding depict that, the science of genetics has been used to justify policies that helped one race by harming another (Jackson & Depew, 2017). Even today the belief that races are genetically dissimilar is used to justify interethnic hostility (Kimel, Huesmann, Kunst, & Halperin, 2016), prejudice Dar-Nimrod & Heine, 2011), segregative behavior (Williams & Eberhardt, 2008), and discriminatory policies (Soylu, Estrada-Villalta, & Adams, 2017).

Research suggests that, the relationship between perceptions of human genetic variation and stereotype endorsement is mediated by genetic essentialism (Dar-Nimrod & Heine, 2011; Donovan, 2015b). Genetic essentialism of race is a social cognitive bias which assumes that the genes inherent in people make same race individuals physically and behaviorally uniform and people of different races physically and behaviorally discrete (Andreychik & Gill, 2014).

Over the last 300 years the oppression and subjugation of various ethnic groups around the world has been rationalized through the idea that inequality is a natural product of human biological difference (Doron, 2012; Hudson, 1996; Mallon, 2013; Morning, 2011; Smedley & Smedley, 2005; Wolf, Kahn, Roseberry, & Wallerstein, 1994).

Particularly in Europe and in those continents colonized by Europeans, science education has also been used to lend false credence to the belief that Western Europeans are biologically superior to other groups (Morning, 2011; Willinsky, 1998). Unfortunately, this belief is still apparent in education today as a sociolinguistics field of proto language family and genetic relatedness between the native speakers of the languages under the same language phylum. In this regard, there are different assumptions. The first is the premise that people of the native speaker of same language family are genetically uniform. Such argument may resulted to anachronistic in globalization era.

Studies shows that, uniformity and discreteness beliefs about race are biologically flawed, it should come as no surprise that there has never been any agreement within the biological or anthropological sciences about whether human races are biologically real (Jackson & Depew, 2017; Morning, 2011). Even today there is no scientific consensus that race is biologically real (Foster, 2009; Kaplan & Winther, 2013a, 2013b; Weiss, 2008; Yudell, Roberts, DeSalle, & Tishkoff, 2016). Because, the source of human being is East African Ethiopia. The same source which is very hard to depart one from the other based on language or history.

When people are led to believe that scientists can distinguish one group from another based on traits that are similar within a group and different between groups, they are more likely to search for an underlying essence to differentiate in groups from outgroups (Yzerbyt et al., 2001). Increased belief in an inherent essence then leads individuals to evaluate in groups more favorably than outgroups (Yzerbyt et al., 2001) and to categorize people into more discrete racial groups (Chao et al., 2013).

According to, J. Schnittker & J. Behrman (unpublished manuscript) quoted in Jeremy Freese and Sara Shostak (2009) raise the possibility that estimates of the strong positive effect of schooling on social connectedness may be confounded by unobserved characteristics that cause differences in educational attainment. They find greatly diminished and even sometimes negative effects when attention is restricted to monozygotic (MZ, identical) twins. Because MZ twins share not only genetic endowments but also generic features of family background and cohort, the strategy of estimating effects by comparing MZ twins eliminates a wide variety of potential confounders. Even so, MZ twins do not differ in educational attainment randomly, and estimates following this strategy may still be confounded by psychological and other characteristics that are not fully determined by genes and shared family environment. In other words, if one believes that cognitive ability confounds an estimated effect of educational attainment and also that genes are only one determinant of cognitive ability, then genetically informed designs still do not account fully for cognitive ability as a confound.

According to Jeremy Freese and Sara Shostak (2009), Social science and genetic science still have fairly little engagement with one another, but the continued swift development of genetic science has certainly gained social scientists' attention. First,

some social scientists are incorporating techniques from quantitative and molecular genetics into their work.

Studies shows that Americans develop incorrect ideas about human genetic variation for two possible reasons. First, there is a lot of misinformation about race and genetics in our culture (Beckwith, 2013; Lewontin, 1996). This misinformation has been promulgated by individuals who have a racially biased social agenda (Beckwith, 2013; Lewontin, 1996). Such individuals try to convince other people that racial stereotypes are caused by genetics because they want to mislead people into thinking that racial inequality is natural and therefore not worthy of redress (Graves, 2015; Morning, 2011; Smedley & Smedley, 2005). People who have been misled may then use stereotypes as a way to make sense of the social world around them, further reinforcing the false idea that racial inequality is genetic (Jost, Banaji, & Nosek, 2004; Morin-Chassé, Suhay, & Jayaratne, 2017). Second possible reason why people tend to believe misleading information about the race is because people live in segregated communities in the United States (Allport, 1954; Clark, 1991). As segregation causes social isolation, it prevents people from seeing that individuals in another group are similar to them (Allport, 1954). It could also prevent them from seeing that they differ from people in their own group in the same way that people in another group differ from each other.

Twenty-five years ago, serious scholars could credibly speculate that genetic differences might prove of only trifling importance for understanding individual differences in psychological characteristics, behaviors, and life attainments (Lewontin et al. 1984). Now, the terrain has shifted to arguments that genetic influence should not be overstated and can only be understood in a context of extensive causal interdependence with the social environment (Pescosolido 2006, Rutter 2006).

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

For this study the critics is used as paradigm. Regarding techniques of data analysis, qualitative approach is utilized. Concerning data collection tools, the secondary data are collected from journals, findings of different researches, books, and proceedings. Therefore, this research is desktop research.

## 3. Data Analysis and Presentations

The researcher used the concept of proto-world language from proto-language perspective. Let present this concept from sociolinguistics perspective. For instance, language family is a group of languages with a common ancestor. This common ancestor is referred to as a protolanguage. Ancestor in this case is the linguistic features that shared by those languages shared same language family. These has nothing to do with genetic relationship of a group of people spoken these languages. In this case the protolanguages of different families also had ancestors, which must have been members of older language families. Many of the branches of these older families may still exist, but they have separated so much that we are not able any longer to discover the family ties.

More explicitly, according to the data obtained from different journal shows that the source of most language of the world are one and same. They were developed from common source. Evidence of a common origin for groups of languages was readily available in Europe, in that French, Spanish, Italian, and other Romance languages were clearly descended from Latin. The researcher's argument is not only most but also source all language of the world are the same. The source of human being is the same, East Africa particularly Ethiopia. It was convincingly examined the hypothesis that there was once a language from which many of the languages of Eurasia have derived. This common ancestor is referred to as a protolanguage. The classification of this languages into different language family are typological classification and genetic classification. These classification contains less than 1 % of differences in language feature. Like 99.9% of the DNA between any two humans is similar. More than 99% of the characteristics and linguistic feature of human language of the world are identical. For instance, Afaan Oromoo and Tigrigna languages, regardless of their language phylum classification the pulmonic consonants found in Afaan Oromoo is found in Tigrigna except the pharyngeal sound /ʕ/. In addition, all non-pulmonic consonants found in Tigrigna are found in Afaan Oromoo except implosive soung /ɗ/. Besides the vowels all are identical in both languages. This classification has nothing to do with the hereditary genetics of a target speech communities.

Besides, Linguists do not agree about the number of language families in the world. Some linguists may be of the opinion that some two language groups are related that is, that they are branches of a single family while others reject the evidence meant to prove the relatedness, concluding that the two groups constitute separate language families.

Is all languages of the world are related? This is a reasonable question to ask. But, how one can prove this? Here it is good to introduce the notion of phone in linguistics. Like an atom is a smallest unit of matter that decomposed into further molecules in chemistry, sound is the smallest unit that can be described further based on place of articulation, manner of articulation and status of glottis. To start with consonants, basically consonants are divided into two. Pulmonic and non-pulmonic consonants. The pulmonic consonants are produced bt the air come from the lung. Most pulmonic consonants are found in most languages of the world. Therefore, most languages of the world share these consonants in common. The consonants are many in number. Similarly, non-pulmonic consonants are produced above the larynx. These consonants are few in number when compared with that of pulmonic consonants. The non-pulmonic consonants composed of clicks, ejectives and implosives. Some languages of the world shared these consonants in common. Therefore, reconstructing proto-world languages in all parts of the world

Similarly, the feature of most vowels of languages of the world are almost the same or nearly the same. The vowels /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/, and /u/ are the vowels shared by most languages of the world. Therefore, most languages of the world shared the vowels and consonants in common. This can pave the way for monogenesis hypothesis more

convincing than that of a polygenesis hypothesis. In this case almost all languages of the world are from common ancestry.

On the other hand, language change is the universal nature of human language of the world. Language change can be exist in different ways. Sometimes the meanings of lexicons, vocabularies and words are changed. In addition, ways of pronunciations of the lexicons, vocabularies, lexemes and words are changed. Moreover, through word formation process new words are adopted, old words are discarded, inflections come and go, in some languages the linguistic structure such as words, phrases, clauses, and sentences are changed. For example the Latin word Brothren became Brother in English, the Ge'ez /k'ätälä/ 'he killed' became /gädälä/ 'he killed' in Amharic, in Latin /habe:re/ 'to have' became /ave:re/ 'he have' in Italain, and /ho:ra/ 'time, hour' in Latin became /o:ra/ 'time, hour in Italian. /okto:/ ,/ojtu/ , /oʧo/, /otto/, and /opt/ are eight in Latin, Portuguese, Castilian, Italian, and Romanian respectively. These feature is the among the major characteristics of language of the world.

In human language if sound correspondences can be established regularly between two or more languages, these languages are belong to same language phylum or the languages are genetically related, that is, they belong to the same language family and are descendants of the same protolanguage. It has nothing to do with human hereditary genetics.

In principle the language family tree is conventional. According to Ross M (2006:500) a conventional family tree of the Germanic languages and serves as a starting point for a discussion of the family-tree model. It shows that the family concept is recursive. Thus, English, Friesian, etc. form a West Germanic family. This, together with the North Germanic family and the single-member East Germanic family, forms the Germanic family. The latter, along with the Romance, Balto-Slavic, Indo-Iranian, and other, some single-member, families, is part of the Indo-European family. Language family tree cannot do justice to the historical relationships between the languages. This shows that language family tree is not something related to hereditary genetics of the speakers of the language.

On the other hand, the origins of the phylogenetic diversity of languages lie far back beyond know ability. Are all today's language families descended from a single 'ProtoWorld'? Many people have assumed so, not on linguistic evidence but on the basis of a single human origin in east Africa. The comparative method allows us to reconstruct linguistic history only as far back as about 8000 years, yet structurally modern language has probably been around for 100 000 years (ibid).

The romance languages spoken in different countries share nearly the same lexicon for the word key. For example, in Franco-Provençal /clâ/, in French /clé/, in Occitan /clau/, in Catalan /clau/, in Spanish /llave/, in Romansch /clav/, in Piedmontese /ciav/, in Romagnol /cêv/, in Italian /chiave/, in Sicilian /chiavi/, in Sardinian /ciae/, in Portuguese /chave/, in Romanian /cheie/, in Aromanian /cljai/, and in Istriot /ciave/. Such feature is common in most language of the world. That is why the researcher argue on the concept of one proto-language ought to be created for the languages spoken as mother of languages spoken in third planet.

According to Wikipedia, the Tutsi appear to share a close genetic kinship with neighboring Bantu populations, particularly the Hutu. However, these people made war against each other two decades before. The world ought to learn from this. The Tutsis are thought to have originally come from Ethiopia and arrived after the Hutu came from Chad. In this universe at communal level nothing is yours. Everything is ours. Rwanda belong to all human being.

Language is a tool to social contraction not deconstruction. Look at the following language cause for civil war between Hutu and Tulsi:

- Hutu daughters are more suitable and conscientious in their role as woman, wife and mother of the family. Are they not beautiful, good secretaries and more honest?
- Every Tutsi is dishonest in business. His only aim is the supremacy of his ethnic group.
- Hutu should stop having mercy on the Tutsi.
- Must constantly counteract Tutsi propaganda.
- Hutu must be firm and vigilant against their common Tutsi enemy.
- Hutu Ideology, must be taught to every Hutu at every level. Every Hutu must spread this ideology widely.

  Source: first appeared in the Kangura newspaper 1990, Kigali Rwanda

If speaking same language is an indecator of same genetic hereditary, Hutu and Tulsi speak same language called Rwanda-rundi. Hutus speak Rwanda-Rundi as their native tongue, which is a member of the Bantu subgroup of the Niger–Congo language family. Rwanda-Rundi is subdivided into the Kinyarwanda and Kirundi dialects, which have been standardized as official languages of Rwanda and Burundi respectively. It is also spoken as a mother tongue by the Tutsi and Twa. Above all humanity and social genetics must given prior.

A new word, steganography, which is the art of hiding information in electronic text, entered English language with the internet revolution. Verbs like disrespect and download entered the language quite recently, as have nouns like byte and email (Fromkin V. At al 2003 :73).

According to Victoria people start disrespecting each other post internet revolution. Pre internet revolution people are very eager to respect each other. This signals are blinking in Ethiopia. Ethiopia's indigenous culture which pave the way to respect each other for a long period of time seems dematerialize. This is true to most countries of the world. In addition, post internet revolution more lexicons are produced in English.

## 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

In sum, the finding of the study demonstrate that it is incorrect to think that the speaker of same language and languages of same phylum are from the same race and genetically uniform. Besides, language is not the only guaranty for genetically relatedness. Instead, being human by itself is the only common characteristic of people of the world.

The pioneer objective of language is communication. English means not UK or British. Rather, it is just a language spoken in different part of the world. That is why Nigeria adopted English as an official language. German is a language spoken in countries like Germany, Australia and so forth. The same is true to French. Therefore, it better to think things from this perspective in order to create harmony and positive thinking among people of the world and target speech communities. Especially, in Africa and Asia language should not be a means of ethnic conflict. This might resulted to the future of Africa and Asia will be brighter that darker.

The concept of hereditary genetics distinguish an individual or a group of individual from the other is a reputational way that triggers a misconception, and incorrect. The world outlook, and paradigm of the target speech community or an individual is not a consequence of hereditary genetics, rather this can be considered as a misconception of genetics.

Scientists do not agree about whether race is biologically real. 99.9% of the DNA between any two humans is identical. When genetics look at the variation portion of human DNA (0.1%) they find:

1. 95.7% of differences are between people of the same race,
2. 4.3% of differences are between peoples of different races.

Skin color changes continuously as one moves away from the equator. But there is more variation in skin color across race than within races. Let adapt this concept to linguistics. A group of people born by chance in the same or nearly the same geographical location might share same language as a vernacular language. These speech communities are different from other target community speak another language. More explicitly 99.9% of the DNA between these two different speech communities are exactly the same. As mentioned above not only 99.9% of the DNA of two human is identical. But also, more than 99% of language of the world share same consonants and vowels. The phoneme chart of most language of the world is almost the same. Therefore, ethnic conflict in different part of the world particularly Africa and Asia has no theoretical and practical reasons. In another word ethnic conflict among two races has no reason and a conflict between groups those share 99.9% of the DNA and 99% of the linguistic characteristics.

Regarding identity there are two type of identity: permanent and temporary identity. Permanent contains family, and a group of people live in the same or nearly the same area share same assets. Whereas, temporary identity composed of power, money and minor affairs faces in day to day activity. To create harmony among the target speech community, the priority ought to given to the permanent than temporary. It is true that in a certain social context if natural disaster happen regardless of language, religion, "ethnic" background it will harm all equally. Climate change, El-nino, flood, fire, and tsunami, happened to all equally. Therefore, social context is among criteria for social genetics.

Currently, in developed countries such as US and Europe "natives" are standing against "non-natives". Such thinking ought to stop and come to an end. To answer the question whom America belong? Red Indian? or Mexicans? or African? It is better to look at

things from social genetics and sociolinguistics. Currently, dwellers of USA share the same language and social values. This does not mean that, those doesn't share same language with them but live in US is genetically unlike. If some incident happen to USA, all share equally.

Since the source of human being is East Africa particularly Ethiopia, the concept of languages are from same mother source ought to be introduced to the world. Because the issue of racism is a potential threat to the world including USA and Europe. If it is not managed well this might be the cause or immediate cause for the world war III. Different speech community ought to make sense of within-group variation if they are to understand between group variations. Because, these two "different" speech communities are genetically, linguistically and gnomically a like and share similar sets of within-group differences

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