

**From:** Robert Trivers <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** J <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Phone call  
**Date:** Sat, 16 Mar 2019 20:14:59 +0000

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many thanks for your detailed message

not quite sure why you thought Honour killing would be detrimental

my reasoning goes way back to when i was first working on basic theory 45 years ago and thought it was natural to be **attracted to anything that appeared to contradict fundamental logic**—male homosexuality was my choice then —how on earth could natural selection raise this clearly counter-reproductive tendency to ~3%—recurrent mutation alone could at best get it up to 1/10,000

as the years rolled by, 3 things stood out: 1) childhood sex inappropriate behaviour was the best predictor—dolls instead of trucks, pink colour instead of blue, 2) the older brother effect—30% higher chance with each older brother and 3) discovery in 1993 of a gene or genes on the X chromosome—so you inherit the tendency from your mother—this immediately suggested the gene might be "sex antagonistic"—bad in males but good in females. For autosomal genes the net effect better be positive but X's are twice as frequent in women as in men, so the female benefit need only be greater than HALF the cost in males to spread

sure enough, elevated frequency of male homosexuality is only found on maternal side—your maternal uncle, your mother's male cousin—furthermore later work showed that maternal female relatives of male homosexuals showed higher RS than female relatives on the paternal side (since then we have discovered a minor gene on the 8th chromosome)

David Haig at Harvard also recently discovered a most novel genetic argument for the 'older brother effect'

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so when i came across Honour killings, i thought this is even worse than male homosexuality—how on earth does it benefit you to slit the throat of your 17 year old daughter, whom you have invested 17+ years of work raising, maybe even with a little love—because you find lipstick in her purse or phone numbers on her cell that you do not recognise and who is also physically beautiful

i have spent 18 months with David Haig solving this problem—including the factor of inheritance you stressed a while ago—i have also mastered the literature, both data and socio-cultural solutions, and they are nowhere near the truth—would writing up my best version of the truth be 'detrimental'?—might subject me to some abuse but i could not care less—this is a ghastly problem someone has to solve this problem in theory, might as well be me

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yes i agree it is time to write up my thoughts on transsexuality—i don't think they would take long but we shall see

here is my cell number 848-565-5736—you seem like you are in NY, i will be in the city on Monday and will call you on your number if i have not heard from you in the meantime

On Sat, Mar 16, 2019 at 7:30 AM J <[jeevacation@gmail.com](mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com)> wrote:

i can call you today if you like. my recollection is that we sat together. I thought that you might want to focus on transgender biology. people would be interested and i would fund. I am a true believer in your talents. my understanding and of course it could be incorrect. was that honor killing work was detrimental for you. as was the knee hip ratio in sprinters etc. little public interest where the genetics of exceptional and transgender would be helpful. I'm always of the view that i should do no harm. and said I wouldn't give you drugs. if you asked because it was bad for you. giving you money for subjects that would be in my strong view detrimental to your future. creates a problem. you said you would get back to me and then told me that chapman had offered you work. In my view. you were telling me that others would support your honor killing etc. you then asked about the markets and i said sit tight. we can talk at anytime

On Fri, Mar 15, 2019 at 11:05 PM Robert Trivers <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Jeffrey

i spoke to the fact-checker at the New Yorker today—my comments all concerned cancelled talk in 2007 but he did say that you were mentioned elsewhere in the article—out in a month, he will alert me

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short answer to your question—after 7 years of continuous support, you seemed to flip, no support at all for past two years nor response to requests

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just wasted two days at Hunter College here in NYC—lecturing and meeting with head of Master's program and separately Chair of Psych Department, trying to pinch-hit for someone on sabbatical

hey said they loved me but offered me "monkey money", as we call it in Jamaica, \$5500/semester—my God, Jeffrey, rent is 8 grand, i would like to eat, have a modest social life and an occasional psychosexual experience—i would return to Jamaica \$15,000 in debt

but i can't take Jamaica 24/7—will fly to London/Berlin for two weeks early June

**can you name a time/date when i can reach you by phone?**

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JEE

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