

Not Quite Right News from Mark Golden

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Speeding Teens to Drive Like Elderly Motorists

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A startling benefit from the Human Genome Project (HGP) is in the works.

Funded by the Federal Transportation Department, DNA researchers have finally arrived at a much hoped for find. The goal is over to locate, isolate, a long-suspected gene in persons over 60 years of age – which causes them to drive ever slower and slower.

As one young scientist put it, “Such slow poke behavior is one thing that is damn annoyingly and literally drives me crazy!”

The long-suspected, Old Age Slow Driving gene (OASD) will have a practical use.

One might ask, “Isn’t it merely a sign of old age?” Well, yes and no, say the scientists. A government spokesperson explained, “Certain elderly do retain fine motor skills, keen hearing and reflexes up until the time of death. We all know at least one seasoned-citizen who is as sharp as a whip mentally and drives here and there in a fine, perky fashion.

“Sadly, the average older person drives with a diminished capacity putting them in the slow-pokin’-to-nowhere-fast majority percentile. The seeming-to-not-be-moving-at-all causes the rest of us aggravation and added time getting from point A to point B. To be blunt, the younger crowd travels using all the letters of the alphabet and the elderly appear to use only A,B and an occasional C.”

The spokesperson went on to explain that the isolated DNA find was, “not just merely interesting, but that it had much needed potential in the law enforcement sector.” That comment piqued the attention of reporters.

“It is the Impatience of Youth gene (IOY) that causes teens to drive unnecessarily fast anywhere and everywhere all the time. Indeed, it is not limited to industrialized countries where motorized vehicles are the standard mode of transportation. In underdeveloped or third world countries where livestock are ridden, driven to pasture or to market, village elders remarked that the young are, “always in a hurry, hurry, hurry! Such a hurry they are in! What is the rush with them, huh?”

The spokesperson continued, “At this time, our research is not seeking uses for the fast gene (IGY) but rather our teams are seeking a genetic marriage of sorts, between the old and the young. Or to be more precise: marrying the too fast to the ultra-slow. When the research is complete there can be a designer wedding in the test tube of the teen gene to the Granny gene – as some fondly call it.

Virtually every country shares the problem of an unusually high percentage of teenage drivers being ticketed for speeding. The cause of such speeding and the cause of many major automobile accidents is primarily the attempt to pass elderly drivers!

The plan is this: teens that are repeat offenders of speeding, erratic, stunt or drunk driving, will be injected with the Granny gene.

This concoction is already in trials. Interestingly, teens who have been used as legal guinea pigs complain of side effects such as “not feeling cool” and “a desire to dye their hair gray.”

But the results are just what were expected: slower rates of speed, fewer incidents of poor judgment causing accidents, and increased awareness that there are other drivers on the road!

This should create a more socially acceptable gene balance in the previously “always in a hurry” drivers. After a few decades when the normal aging process takes over, these reformed speeders will begin driving slower of their own accord and the mandatory shots will become unnecessary.

Some advocates are pushing for a “one-strike-and-you’re-old” law. Others believe that making it mandatory for all teens to watch films of the elderly driving will be a scary enough deterrent.

Another story from REAL LIFE (that I made up!) This parody news story is for amusement. Any similarity to real people, places or things is fictitious and not to be taken as fact.