

## Heritage co-author: 'Base immigration on race IQ'

By: Jay Bookman – May 8, 2013

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A recent report by the Heritage Foundation has drawn harsh and bipartisan criticism, even ridicule, for its claim that immigration reform will cost the U.S. taxpayer some \$6.3 trillion. Among its conservative critics are U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, the Cato Institute and Americans for Tax Reform.

The co-author of the Heritage report is Jason Richwine, who is senior policy analyst in empirical studies at The Heritage Foundation. That's a nice job, and presumably Heritage did its due diligence into Richwine's background before hiring him. If so, perhaps they found his doctoral dissertation at Harvard, titled "IQ and Immigration Policy." According to the dissertation abstract:

*"The statistical construct known as IQ can reliably estimate general mental ability, or intelligence. The average IQ of immigrants in the United States is substantially lower than that of the white native population, and the difference is likely to persist over several generations. The consequences are a lack of socioeconomic assimilation among low-IQ immigrant groups, more underclass behavior, less social trust, and an increase in the proportion of unskilled workers in the American labor market."*

According to the Washington Post, the dissertation argues that deep-set differences exist between the races, and that "the totality of the evidence suggests a genetic component to group differences in IQ."

That would certainly be consistent with what Richwine had to say in a 2008 appearance at the American Enterprise Institute that was also broadcast on C-SPAN:

*"The argument that immigrants themselves are no different from the ones that came 100 years ago I think is quite wrong, and I think that the major difference here is ethnicity — or race, if you will. .... There are real differences between groups, not just trivial ones that we happen to notice more than we should. Races differ in all sorts of ways, and probably the most important way is in IQ. Decades of psychometric testing has indicated that at least in America you have Jews with the highest average IQ, usually followed by east Asians and then you have non-Jewish whites, and Hispanics and then blacks. These are real differences. They aren't going to go away tomorrow, and we have to address them in our immigration discussions and debates."*

Video of the comments above can also be found [here](#).

It is Richwine's contention that we ought to base government policy on those alleged

differences. Of course, there is also another school of thought, perhaps expressed best by Thomas Jefferson: "All men are created equal ...."