

November 7th, 1935

Dear Dr Sjögren,

I am sending herewith the second part of your second proofs. I have made out a classification of the sibs of both sexes of both male and female oligophrenics, and enclose the result on separate sheet, both taking the data as they stand and, what is probably more desirable, omitting the one exceptional family in which there were seven oligophrenic children. On all counts it is, I think, to be supposed that this family is differently constituted genetically from the others and may with advantage be set aside in making comparisons. I have, however, been obliged to include children under three, who should properly have been excluded.

As you show in your table of sex link inheritance, among the sibs of female oligophrenics boy and girl defective should be equally frequent if a sex linked factor is the main cause of disturbance. It appears from the data that there are 13.6% boys and 6.7% defective girls among such sibs. This difference

should not, I think, properly be regarded as significant. Among the sibs of oligophrenic boys, where we should expect an excessive proportion of defectives among the males, the proportion is found of 6.7 and 8.1, showing no apparent deviation in the expected direction.

As you say, the material is limited in extent and, though the tests are not particularly insensitive, something of the effect you anticipate might be obscured by the sampling errors, as also perhaps by the inclusion of children under three. This last defect could be removed, and I believe you have also additional data of a rather similar character from your previous investigations in other parishes. I believe it would be very well worth while to set out your entire material in this way; for, attractive as is the theory of sex linked inheritance in many ways, if any of its observable consequences are going to fail, the sooner we are aware of this danger signal the better.

Yours sincerely