

8th July, 1958.

My dear Luca,

I have not heard from you for quite a while. On the point you raised to the effect that if it was assumed (a) that twins of the same sex normally influence each other's smoking habits through personal contact, and (b) that such influence is stronger as between monozygotic than dizygotic twins, this is, as you know, I think, the kind of objection that is usually put forward to hinder the understanding of scientific data, for the kind of people who make these objections are typically quite unaware of any obligation to prove the assumptions on which they are based.

Some while ago, Dr Eliot Slater of the Maudsley Hospital sent me some twin data, largely girls, which do in fact enable these assumptions to be checked. Of 18 dizygotic pairs, 9 were similar and 9 unlike in their smoking habit. Of 53 monozygotic girl pairs, 44 were similar and 9 unlike. So far, we only have a confirmation for girls of what Verschuier's data show clearly for boys and men.

However, the Maudsley data contain an additional and valuable feature. Of the 53 monozygotic pairs, 27 were separated at, or shortly after, birth and brought up in different homes, while 26 were brought up together in the same family. The distribution of the 9 cases of unlike smoking habit between these sub-classes is therefore relevant to the acceptability of the two assumptions (a) and (b) above. Actually, of the 27 cases <sup>reared</sup> bred separately, only 4 have developed unlike smoking habits, while of the 26 cases of pairs brought up together there are 5 which differ now in smoking.

You do not tell me how your own research is progressing. I have heard of a man in Lond doing the same sort of thing, and I am sure it will be repeated in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.