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Research prior to the 1920's

Gould in his book *Mismeasure of man* (1981) chronicles research that examined differences among the races. Scientists conducted craniometry examination of human skull size in order to infer individual or group characteristics. Many researchers tried to scientifically prove the existence of biologically superior and inferior races. Contemporary scholars have noted that the term is limited in its usefulness. By measuring the cranial capacities of different racial groups, these research attempts to provide evidence that the white race had the largest cranial capacity and therefore, was the superior race. One researcher, Broca, concluded that white men had a capacity that exceeded others, less advanced groups including women. Gould reanalyzed Broca's findings and concluded that his data either has been altered, contained serious methodological flaws, or were characterized by flawed logic. Gould reasoned that because of the general intellectual