

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

pro bono humani generis

1230 YORK AVENUE - NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021-6399

Joshua Lederberg
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

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Dr. Yuji Kawaguchi
Director
↓ WHO Centre for Health
Development
I.H.D. Centre Building, 9th floor
5-1, 1-chome, Wakinoama-Kaigandori
Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073
JAPAN

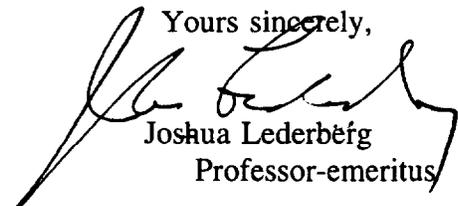
Dear Dr. Kawaguchi:

I thank you so much for sending me the World Atlas of Ageing. I have an interest in this topic from a number of perspectives, one of which you will see right on the front page of the enclosed reprint.

That leads me to ask whether you have data comparable to my Figure I, life expectancy historically throughout the twentieth century for other countries and 2) what kind of tabulations or graphs exist for historical changes in remaining years of life expectancy at attained age, let's say, age 60 or 65, that is for those individuals who have survived the ravages of infectious disease at an early age. Obviously the larger part of improvement of life expectancy has had to do with exactly the latter but it would be interesting to have firmer statistics and a broader geographical base.

Recent articles by Robert Pinner from the CDC in the JAMA (Jn 6 1999) have enlarged on the history of the changes of longevity in relation to infectious disease in the United States.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg
Professor-emeritus

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E-MAIL: LEDERBERG@MAIL.ROCKEFELLER.EDU