

The Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858 on slavery and its expansion into U.S. territories were a key moment in American history. There have been many such public debates that were not only pivotal for their time, but also influenced broader societal, political, and intellectual developments.

“THE GREAT DEBATE” WAS HELD DURING THE 1920s BETWEEN SHAPLEY AND CURTIS AND ARGUED ABOUT:

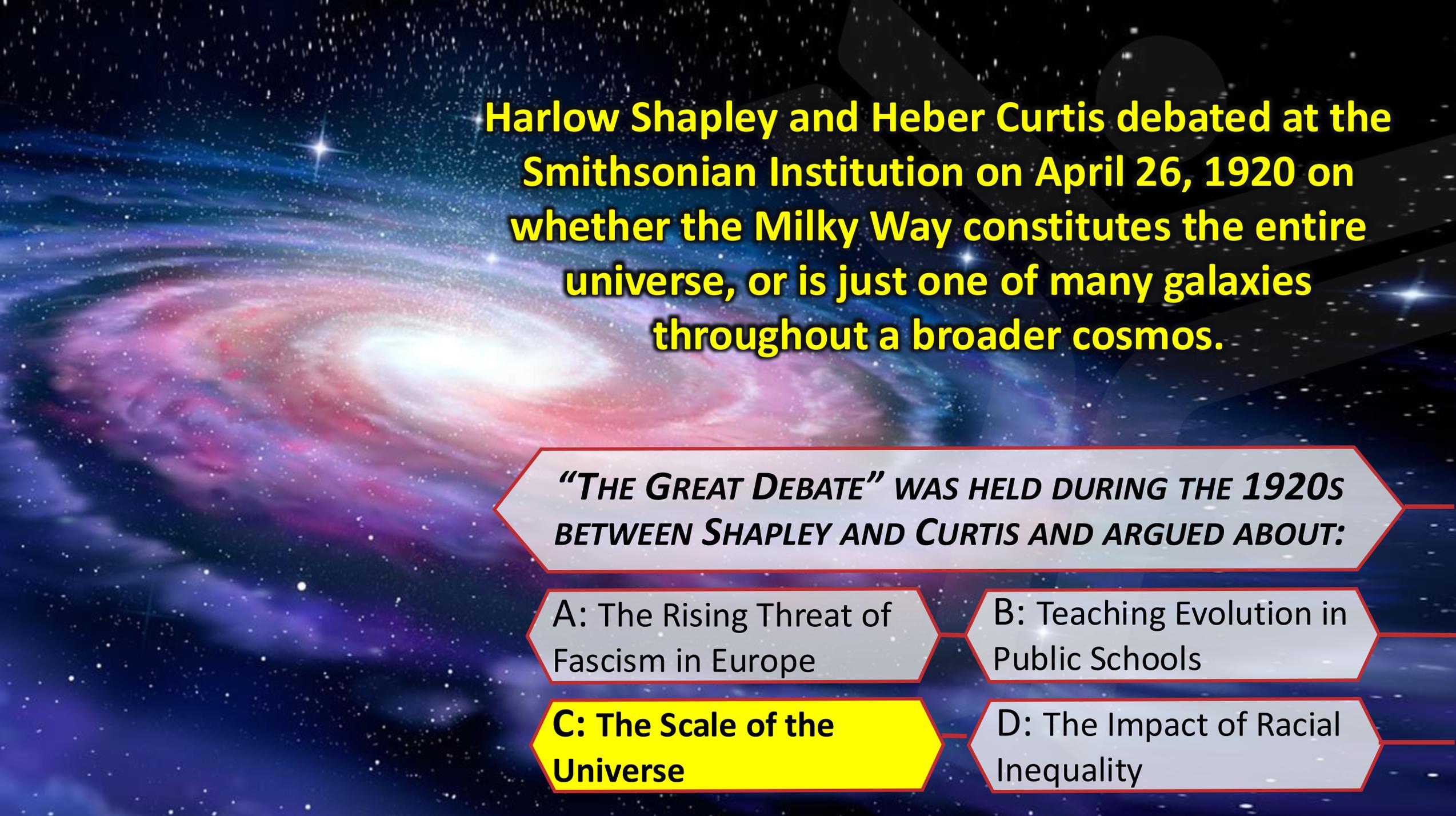
A: The Rising Threat of Fascism in Europe

B: Teaching Evolution in Public Schools

C: The Scale of the Universe

D: The Impact of Racial Inequality





Harlow Shapley and Heber Curtis debated at the Smithsonian Institution on April 26, 1920 on whether the Milky Way constitutes the entire universe, or is just one of many galaxies throughout a broader cosmos.

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