

Gun registry comments are double-speak

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FULL TEXT

Politicians are known for empty rhetoric; no doubt about that. Lots of empty, positive sounding, meaningless words that bathe us daily on the news, and attempt to lull us into accepting the words as signs of action and care. But I must admit to being puzzled by Mr. Harper's oft repeated phrase about how "people are tired of being considered criminals" because of the long gun registry. What does that mean?

I am a hunter with a registered rifle. And I own an old pickup which I have registered with ICBC so that I can drive it and insure it. Doing so has not made me feel like a criminal.

And then I realized that Mr. Harper was not spewing empty rhetoric, but rather employing Orwellian double-speak. What those words mean is something like, "anyone supporting the long gun registry is an elitist, urban, know-nothing-about-the-real-world-person."

That reading suggests the ongoing anti-expert talking points of our minority government leaders who are opposed to the experts in census data gathering and to the experts in policing.

I think I am beginning to understand the fear that so many Canadian have about Mr. Harper. Wouldn't it be great to find a politician who said what she or he meant and meant what she or he said?

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Credit: Bob Lane; The Daily News

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