

Saturday editorial fine example of nonsense

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Careful readers will have noticed that the entire right-wing rant starts with not just a hypothetical but with a conditioned hypothetical: "It was almost as though some were resigned to their plight" writes the unknown ranter. What?

Did the writer see that fatalism in the television images? Is that like USA Senator Frist when he diagnosed a healthy Terri Shiavo from a video image? I know that people see what they want to see, but this is a bit like Alice when she claims to have seen "No one" on the road.

FULL TEXT

Dear sir:

Your borrowed editorial in the Saturday edition is such a fine example of nonsense that I cannot refrain from commenting.

I tried for several minutes to find a cogent argument in the piece from the National Post, but, alas, I could not. All that is there is an attitude, an agenda, an assertion that the death and destruction in New Orleans is partly the result of "a reliance on social assistance."

The National Post piece suggests that it is always the fault of a welfare system that the poor are poor; my goodness, it finger-wags, "if you had any self-reliance at all you would have picked up your children and your sick and ill parents and carried them out of the rising water on your back."

But, no, because of government aid in the past you waited for government aid again as the water rose and the stench filled the air.

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Did the writer see that fatalism in the television images? Is that like USA Senator Frist when he diagnosed a healthy Terri Shiavo from a video image? I know that people see what they want to see, but this is a bit like Alice when she claims to have seen "No one" on the road.

("What good eyes you must have," said the Queen.)

To be brief I won't mention the unsubstantiated factoids and empty psychological analysis from a distance.

I do not think that we know enough about the event, the assistance, the aftermath to preach from afar.

And certainly not from so far right!

And in spite of the editorial stance I urge that those that can should go to the Canadian Red Cross and make a donation.

Bob Lane

Nanaimo

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