

'Character Assassination" of Skeptical Scientists Exposed on NY Times Website!

Just posted on New York Times Website! Marc Morano's response to three of the most vocal critics of Senate 'Consensus Busters' report. The three promoters of climate fear have spent weeks of their life smearing skeptical scientists. [Response addressed to: 1) Raymond Pierrehumbert of the propaganda website RealClimate.org - <http://geosci.uchicago.edu/~rtp1>) 2) Eco-mag Grist.org's Professor Andrew Dessler <http://www.met.tamu.edu/people/faculty/dessler.php> & 3) Eli Rabett (pseudonym) - <http://rabett.blogspot.com>)

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/24/earth-scientists-express-rising-concern-over-warming/#comment-9695>

Re: Pierrehumbert, Rabett, and Dessler – Your tactics have been exposed by Roger Pielke, Jr.!

It's over guys. You may have had a fun ride smearing, deriding, ridiculing, and mocking skeptical scientists, but the ride is officially ending.

Roger Pielke, Jr., hardly a climate skeptic, has come out and declared tactics similar to the type the three of you are so gleefully engaging in "repugnant." Pielke, Jr. directs the University of Colorado's Center for Science and Technology Policy Research and also is an associate professor of environmental studies.

In an article just released this morning (January 30, 2008), Pielke, Jr. is denouncing the (feeble) attempts to smear scientists featured in the Senate 'Consensus Busters' Report of skeptical scientists. (Currently at over 450 scientists and growing)

Excerpt from Pielke, Jr: And this leads to the repugnant behavior of the attack dog climate scientists who otherwise would like to be taken seriously. By engaging in the character assassination of people who happen to find themselves on Senator Inhofe's list they reinforce the absurd notion that scientific claims can be adjudicated solely by head counts and a narrow view of professional qualifications. They can't. End Excerpt.

Mr. Dessler, Mr. Rabett, and Mr. Pierrehumbert, pay attention; Pielke, Jr. may not mention you individually, but he magnificently describes your methods.

Excerpt from Pielke, Jr.: But by suggesting that knowledge claims can be judged by credentials the attack dog scientists reinforce an anti-democratic authoritarian streak found in the activist wing of the climate science community. Of course, from the perspective of the activist scientists such attacks may be effective if they dissuade other challenges to orthodoxy, but surely climate scientists deserving of the designation should be encouraging challenges to knowledge claims, rather than excoriating anyone who dares to challenge their beliefs. [...] The climate science community – or at least its most publicly visible activist wing – seems to be working as hard as possible to undercut the legitimacy and the precarious trust that society provides in support of activities of the broader scientific community. End Excerpt.

Let's repeat a key phrase here just in case Dessler, Rabett, and Pierrehumbert were not paying attention.

Pielke, Jr. wrote about how these tactics "reinforce an anti-democratic authoritarian streak found in the activist wing of the climate science community."

Ouch!

And here is more from Pielke, Jr.: "If activist climate scientists wish to play the Senator's game, then don't be surprised to see common wisdom viewing these activists more as political players than trustworthy experts. If this is correct then maybe the Senator is a bit more astute than given credit for." End excerpt.

Let's review some of the key phrases Pielke, Jr. ascribes to the tactics of Dessler, Rabett, and Pierrehumbert:

"Repugnant"

"Character Assassination"

"Narrow view of professional qualifications"

"Anti-democratic authoritarian streak"

"Activist wing"

"Orthodoxy"

"Political players"

"Excoriating anyone who dares to challenge their beliefs"

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Pielke, Jr. just rendered a dead-on accurate description of what has been transpiring on this blog and at Grist and Rabett's webstie and a few others.

Pielke, Jr. ends his article by telling the "activist" climate folks to "chill." See Pielke, Jr.'s full article here: http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/prometheus/archives/science_politics/001338witanagemot_justice_.html

There you have it, Dessler, Rabett, and Pierrehumbert. It is a concise, clear, and 100% accurate analysis of your shameful "swift-boating" tactics.

If you three (and others) feel compelled to issue a public apology for your disgraceful behavior, I am sure the readers of the New York Times here would be receptive.

Remember, there is nothing to fear from a free open scientific debate. Practicing intimidation tactics should be discarded.

Once you three rise above your personal biases honed from years of invested activism on climate issues, you may actually be able to muster some valid critiques of the Senate 'Consensus Busters' report.

It appears your reign of "qualification" thuggery is nearing its end.

Sincerely,

Marc Morano

U.S. Senate Environment & Public Works Committee

P.S. Once again: Please read the full Senate 'Consensus Busters' report here: <http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.SenateReport> (currently well over 450 dissenting scientists and growing)

For more rebuttals to critics of Senate report: see: <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/24/earth-scientists-express-rising-concern-over-warming/#comment-9135> & <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/09/the-road-from-climate-science-to-climate-advocacy/#comment-6813> & <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/09/the-road-from-climate-science-to-climate-advocacy/#comment-6702> & <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/01/24/earth-scientists-express-rising-concern-over-warming/#comment-9492>

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