

Reading Michael Myer (April 8)

Saturday – "Politics Becomes Too Personal" a look at the "big lie strategy," projection, and evidence

Myer first discusses what he calls the "big lie strategy" which he ascribes to liberals (of course). The strategy, as he describes it, is simple – you tell a big lie and then you demonize your opponent. His examples include the head of the EPA and Harry Reid. Do Republicans ever use the strategy? I guess not because his examples are an Obama bureaucrat and a Democrat. (And I'm sure we will eventually find WMDs in Iraq and Republicans never called opponents of the Iraq War traitors or something worse. How many thousands of lives did that "big lie" cost us?)

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines projection as "the attribution of one's own ideas, feelings, or attitudes to other people or to objects." Again, step 2 in his "big lie strategy" is to "demonize those who disagree with you." Look at any of his political columns and you will almost always find a number of attacks upon his opponents and yet, according to Myer, that's what liberals and Democrats do. For example, in the first sentence of this article we have "radical environmentalists" and in the fourth paragraph, they're "Luddites."

And what does Myer use to support his various assertions in this column? Nothing.

But that's the climate change alarmists' strategy – to blame every evil they can think of on global warming. (I might not consider this an overreach if there was some support here.)

Remember claims climate change was causing more hurricanes of greater severity? It just isn't true. (It isn't? Then how about some evidence?)

Sunday – "We Know It's Almost Heaven"- stereotypes and evidence

Myer wants to discuss *Criminal Minds*, a television program he has not seen, and the stereotypes that are supposedly in the show. He suggests why:

Many people seem to need to be able to look down on others if they are to feel good about themselves. It's just one of the foibles of humankind exploited regularly by some people in politics and entertainment. But I repeat myself . . .

We all know, for example, the liberal explanation of why West Virginia went against Barack Obama in two presidential elections. We must be racists.

That's it? That's what liberals believe? Is there any evidence for this assertion? According to Myer, liberals didn't give Hillary Clinton, another liberal, any credit? Didn't she appear more fiscally and socially conservative? Isn't she the wife of Bill Clinton who won twice in the state? Didn't she and Bill spend much more time in the state? Myer needs to demonize liberals and so it doesn't matter.

He then offers proof that the state is not racist:

Nevermind that, according to a recent report by the national Kids Count organization, African-American children in our state are slightly better off than the national average. Kids Count considered a variety of indicators of well-being, ranging from economic factors to health and education. Black children here ranked 25th in the 50 states in well-being. White West Virginia youngsters were dead last. So, if we're trying to discriminate against African-Americans, we're not doing a very good job of it.

Reread the quote. Myer is saying that because black kids are relatively better off than white kids, the state isn't racist? Huh? That's the only component to racism – how relatively better off black kids are? I'm not arguing that the state is racist, but this certainly doesn't prove that it isn't.