


Weather:  LAS CRUCES, NM | Now: 52°F | High: 69°F | Low: 41°F | 5-Day Forecast

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Letters to the editor

Posted: 01/08/2009 12:00:00 AM MST

Out of context

In his recent letter, Mr. Bill Shipton repeats the words of the NRA to paint me and the organization I help direct as a force that wants to "cease propagating the human race." Mr. Shipton should know that an extremist organization such as the NRA needs to take words out of context in order to keep itself in the news. Let me give Mr. Shipton, and the NRA, a lesson in accurate reporting.

In a letter dated Oct. 18, 2008 and sent to an NRA supporter I wrote "If sprawl concerns farmers and hunters, they should push for mandatory population densities in cities and suburbs (require that developers build "up" rather than "out"), and get active in the movement to limit, or better yet reverse, human population growth." Nowhere did I say that these were goals that I or the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting pursue, support, or encourage. The spin doctors at the NRA and the hunters they represent need to understand that words used out of context are meaningless. If someone says "I don't believe that it is right to kill babies" I cannot accurately quote them saying "Mr. Smith said "it is right to kill babies."

Yellow journalism is alive and well and it seems to be headquartered at the NRA an organization that supports violence against wildlife and is out of touch with the majority of society. Those who believe every word spewed by the NRA should understand that the organization distorts reality to advance its extremist philosophy. After all, if they think

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nothing of maiming and killing wildlife for recreation why would they hesitate to take someone's words out of context?

To learn how the violence supported by the NRA destroys wildlife, people, and the natural world, visit www.AbolishSportHunting.com.

JOE MIELE,

President, The Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting
Las Cruces

Combating gangs

I commend LCSN reporter Ashley Meeks on her outstanding and well-researched coverage of the issue of gangs in Do-a Ana County.

I hope that as a result of publication of this series three specific occurrences will take place.

1. Schools, municipalities and community organizations recognize that the phenomenon of gang membership and

its effects should be categorized as "high priority;"

2. Communities take proactive and defensive stances to combat the consequences of gang presence, namely: graffiti, drug sales, ATOD addictions, criminal enterprise, assaults and other violence, school dropout, the revolving door of incarceration and many other phenomena.
3. Parents, schools, churches, law enforcement and government come together to collaboratively combat this issue with an eye on prevention, intervention, education and suppression as a composite.

ROB GALLARDO

Director, Operation No Gangs
Santa Teresa

Operation No Gangs