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## Editorials

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## Editorials : Guest Opinion: Activists playing kids like a piñata

By Andy Caldwell

September 23, 2018 7:49 AM

In the name of bridging differences between those of diverse backgrounds and cultures to strengthen our schools and communities, the nonprofit Just Communities is promoting racism and stereotypes against white people.

The Santa Barbara school curriculum by Just Communities defines racism as: "A system of oppression based on race that privileges white people and targets people of color." The definition of oppression sounds eerily familiar: "A system that benefits some groups (often called 'privileged' white groups) and disadvantages other groups (often called target groups people of color)."

The kids who are going to be indoctrinated, er, educated about all the racist white people out there should follow the money. For instance, Just Communities was given over \$30,000 by the Fund for Santa Barbara. Where did the fund get its money? The original money source is the McCune Foundation, which gave the Fund for Santa Barbara and the Just Communities organization upwards of \$200,000 over the past couple of years.

Ironically, the McCune Foundation board is predominately lily white, with one notable exception. That would be Marcos Vargas, who sits on the board and is the executive director of the Fund for Santa Barbara. So, are the McCune board members simply repentant liberals trying to assuage a guilty conscience? Or, most likely, are they a bunch of political activists who want to play the Latino kids in Santa Barbara like a piñata? That is, striking their minds and their collective conscience with propaganda, insults and innuendos until they have become soldiers in the resistance against the American ideal?

It is no coincidence that the logo of this "Ethnic Studies Now" program is a raised fist which has always symbolized resistance and defiance against the established order. The goal of this effort is to create militancy by leading young people to believe they are victims in our society rather than positioning them for success by virtue of everything this country has to offer. How appalling that some of the kids targeted by

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this program are immigrants themselves or the children of immigrants. The immigrant parents of these kids so believed in America that they risked everything so that their kids could have a bright future here. Instead of building on that reasonable hope, activists, including education establishment bureaucrats, would rather indoctrinate these kids to believe they can't get ahead because our country exists to protect white privilege. Do explain, then, how an immigrant, Salud Carbajal, became our congressman? Or how another local son of an immigrant, Abel Maldonado, became our lieutenant governor?

Perhaps the curriculum should look at the future racists-in-training in organizations these kids will certainly be familiar with, Mecha and La Raza. While it is hard to distinguish the two, if in fact they are not one and the same organization, they are certainly part of the same movement. Both exist to foment a revolution among Latino youth in an effort to declare Chicano power and to declare independence and liberation from the American ideal, if not America itself.

Mecha wants to liberate Aztlan from the United States. It is therefore an organization founded in separatism. Raza, for its part, exists to promote the race — that is one race, Latino. It is therefore a racist organization by its own declaration. So how is it that young Latinos can condemn white people for being racists while not condemning organizations that have obvious aspirations of their own toward those same ends?

Any bet that the Santa Barbara public school district curriculum spends precious little time explaining the uniquely American wonder of the melting pot and our historic national motto, E Pluribus Unum?

*Andy Caldwell is the executive director of COLAB and host of The Andy Caldwell Radio Show, weekdays from 3-5 p.m., on News-Press AM 1290.*



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