

CLIMATE PROGRESS

trick Michaels and Cato keep repeating an egregious falsehood about Michael Mann and the stolen emails

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One of the leading anti-science disinformers, [Patrick J. Michaels](#), can't seem to stop spreading the most blatant disinformation. And the Cato Institute, where's he's Senior Fellow, actually seems to encourage this falsification, since they let "research fellow" Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar also repeat the easily fact-checked howler.

Cato needs to issue an apology and multiple retractions.

Cato has published on its website a piece titled, "[Climate Scientists Subverted Peer Review.](#)" While it rehashes many debunked falsehoods, one in particular is a blatant lie:



In one of the e-mails, Penn State's Michael Mann, long a power player in the production of these reports, said this about some scientific articles he did not like: "I can't see either of these papers being in the next IPCC report. Kevin and I will keep them out somehow — even if we have to redefine what the peer-review literature is!"

This is pretty serious stuff, because it, and many similar e-mails, paint a picture of IPCC boffins committing science's capital crime: Trying to game the peer-reviewed literature, which is akin to editing what goes in the Bible.

In this case, Mann is actually speculating about keeping contrary information out of the IPCC reports by blacklisting certain professional journals.

So many falsehoods, so little time. The inaccuracy of Michaels' entire analysis is underscored by the simple fact that Mann never said any such thing. You can see the email in question [here](#). It was written by CRU head Phil Jones. But Michaels and Cato can't gain much mileage from attacking a UK scientist, so they fabricate this assault on Penn State's Mann, who is the object of a coordinated attack by the right wing (see "[Anti-science disinformers step up efforts to intimidate and harass climate scientists](#)").

And just so that you see this isn't an isolated incident, but part of a pattern of misrepresentation and character assassination, Cato also repeated the lie on its website in the article "[Censorship Threatens Truth on Climate,](#)" by research fellow Swaminathan S. Anklesaria Aiyar:

Regretably, the IPCC itself is now getting tainted by this attempt to capture academic journals and censor dissenting views. Objecting to some dissenting papers, Mann is reported to have said, "I can't see either of these papers being in the next IPCC report. Kevin and I will keep them out somehow — even if we have to redefine what the peer-review literature is!"

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