



‘Foxlandia’ and GOP tunnel vision

Michael Plowman

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Larry Cothren's column, “Dearest Socialism”, misrepresents both Democrats and socialism. Merriam-Webster defines socialism as follows; 1. Economic and political theories advocating collective or governmental ownership and administration of the means of production and distribution of goods and 2. A system of society in which there is no private property.

Mr. Cothren seems to conflate the mere collection of income taxes as a confiscation of income and property – thus socialism. An acquaintance of mine told me that Obamacare was a taking from her to give to someone else. Ironically, her family has done very well in home building and construction. When a new development goes in, money is taken from all of us to repair the damaged back roads, build new roads for more traffic and build new schools.

“Foxlandia” – induced tunnel – vision misses the broader picture.

I know hundreds of Democrats and none advocate abolition of private property nor governmental control of the means of production.

Mr. Cothren’s and the GOP’s portrayal of Democrats having embraced socialism, open borders and lawlessness is a classic building of a “strawman” that is much easier to attack than the average real-life Democrat. In real life, we Democrats own property, stocks and are invested in our capitalist society.

Trump reviles Mexicans and Central Americans as murderers and rapists. According to the Cato Institute, hardly a left-wing group, neighborhoods with heavy concentrations of undocumented immigrants have much less crime than other neighborhoods. And, McAllen, Texas, which lies on the Mexican border at a wall-less area had zero murders in 2018. Shouldn't we be spending much more at ports-of-entry and some wall money at a few critical areas? But, why let facts or common sense get in the way of emotion?