



Steller should speak with credible experts

Bryna Koch

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Re: the Sept. 1 column “Even ‘lite’ version of sanctuary will provoke Legislature.”

Columnist Tim Steller quoted Jessica Vaughan from the Center for Immigration Studies, which was founded by John Tanton. Tanton was a eugenicist whose mission to maintain a white majority is documented in letters with Klan lawyers, Holocaust deniers and white supremacists. The center is not simply “restrictionist,” as described by Steller.

Vaughan’s Twitter feed is a modern Der Sturmer, pushing false narratives linking immigration and crime. Vaughan has been interviewed by a paper run by a Holocaust denier, and in a 2014 radio interview she laughed as the host suggested that undocumented people in the U.S. should be “strapped into a parachute” and pushed out of cargo planes over their birth countries.

Quoting Vaughan, who is notorious for manipulating data and works for an organization founded by a eugenicist, when there are other credible expert organizations (e.g, the Cato Institute, Bipartisan Policy Center) is unacceptable. Tucson deserves better than the unquestioning publication of extremists masquerading as policy experts.

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