

The Daily Courier

Global warming

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EDITOR:

Tom Steele's recent Talk of the Town was a waste of ink. He attempts to debunk the world's scientific consensus that increased CO2 is warming the earth. He overwhelms with unrelated facts and rambles about solar cycles, ice ages and volcanoes. Jerry Fowler did the same thing in an equally misleading letter recently. Mr. Steele's biggest problem is that the source of his supposed proof is questionable.

He cites the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Warming and its founder, C. D. Idso, as the source of his claim. This "Center for Study" is connected to the right-wing think tank, the CATO Institute. The blog directly associated with the CATO Institute is The Federalist, for which Idso writes. Some of their recent articles include: "Social Security Sucks," "Pope Frances, Fossil Fuels won't cause Armageddon," and "The Phantom menace: The more urgent other problems become; the more our leaders double down on the invented threat of global warming." It seems obvious that Mr. Steel's source is a political mouthpiece for the radical right, which supports the coal and oil giants. Here is the Center's mission statement: "... the center attempts to separate science from rhetoric in the emotionally charged debate...around the subject of carbon dioxide and global change."

The problem is that the Center wants to claim "the science" using a few thin studies while trying to convince us that the other 97 percent of world scientists are lying. The Center appears to be nothing more than a political front, paid for by the business folks who have the most to lose if they have to clean up their coal plants and move to clean energy. Unfortunately, our grandchildren and great grandchildren have the most to lose if we listen to the deceptions of Steele and Fowler.