

Racial epithets: Letters for Sunday, Jan. 31

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Racial epithets

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Santa Clarita Councilman Bob Kellar called himself a "proud racist" at an anti-immigration rally. Does his comment hurt or help the immigration reform effort?

Catering to Latinos

I agree with Bob Kellar. We are losing our country because we are not even requiring legal immigrants to learn English or, when flying a flag, making it the American flag. While the influx of Latinos in Southern California and elsewhere is a problem, it is exacerbated by catering to their language in advertising, election material, media coverage. But, we are also trying to cater to every other race, culture, custom in the world in the same way as we've done with Latinos. Is this insane, or what? Does this make me a racist? Guilty.

- BOB SHARP

Arleta

Just another PC translation

I do not feel Bob Kellar meant his remark to be taken as racist. As far as I could make out, Mr. Kellar did not in any way say that we Americans are superior. He supported one flag, the American flag to be precise, and one language, English, to be spoken and used as the first language, which is often not the case especially when one phones and gets an answer machine recording at doctor's offices and such like.

Mr. Kellar was being badgered by the press, and in frustration said what appeared to be a racist remark but was just another politically incorrect translation which has become the norm of our society.

- PAMELA FRANKLIN

Granada Hills

Another 'proud racist'

Mr. Kellar's comments have raised the issue of illegal immigration in California to the front pages of the newspapers. It's too bad so many of those illegal immigrants cannot read his comments because they are printed in English. If believing in one flag and one language for our great country makes me a racist, then I too am a proud racist.

- TOM SCHMIDT

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A setback for reform

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Bob Kellar set the debate on illegal immigration back by not vehemently denying that there is any link between his being against illegal immigration and being a racist. At a minimum, his response makes him look like an idiot. At the worst, his comment makes him look like he is, in fact, a racist.

In reality, neither party really wants to do anything aside from rhetoric. Our economy is addicted to the steady stream of cheap labor that illegal immigration affords.

- RUSSELL SACKS

Santa Clarita

The political correct police

How noble of you to give the benefit of the doubt to Santa Clarita Councilman Bob Keller for his obviously sarcastic remark that he is "proud racist." Those of us who disagree with the political correct police are not usually extended that courtesy.

If we happen to disagree with the president it is not because we feel there may be a better solution, it is because we are racists. If we believe in controlling our borders we are racists. If we are concerned that this country is being overrun by poorly educated, unskilled immigrants, we are racists. If we dare use the word "illegal" instead of the politically correct "undocumented," we are racists.

- ROBERT J. PIASECKI

Santa Clarita

Invasion, not immigration

Thank God for leaders like Bob Keller. What happened to California was not immigration, it was an invasion. Immigration is a process of orderly acceptance of groups of people from the world, not a flood of a poor, dependent group of people from one country who stress our economy to the brink of disaster. The incompetent, so-called "leaders" who allowed this to happen, both Democrat and Republican, should be put before a military court. Many parts of California now resemble Mexico.

- KENNETH ZACCARIA

Westlake Village

The tip of the iceberg

Bob Kellar's comments unfortunately voiced the opinion of a majority of non-Hispanic whites living out here in the Santa Clarita Valley. The Signal newspaper supports these people. When Vallarta Market went in on Lyons Avenue, most of the businesses such as Hallmark, moved out. At the time, The Signal had huge debates about the type of "element" Vallarta would bring to the area.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. I'm Mexican-

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American, my parents and I were all born in California, our ancestors are from Arizona. We are true Americans. When I wanted my gifted child to go to a top-performing school, because my last name is Hispanic, the school superintendent wouldn't let me. He said my child was right where he belonged - even though there were no accommodations made for my child to learn at a higher level.

- MARISSA LOPEZ

Stevenson Ranch

Sick and tired of paying

I would hope that Bob Kellar's comments would help propel the immigration debate and force our state to deal with this huge problem. He does not owe anyone an apology for speaking the truth. Everyone I talk to is sick and tired of paying for the illegal immigrants to swamp our emergency rooms, overcrowd our schools with their anchor kids and refuse to even speak English. If California does not stop being an illegal immigrant sugar daddy, we will continue on our downward spiral into complete bankruptcy.

- HEIDI JOHNSTON

Castaic

A would-be voter for Kellar

Hooray for Bob Kellar! Only wish I could vote for

him! I am completely against illegal immigration from any country. I'll go a step further - any children born to illegal immigrant should be illegal as well. This country has a process to enter which needs to be completely enforced on all levels. Please repatriate those here illegally along with their families.

This country is broke financially and I cannot afford the taxes already levied. I don't want anyone not a citizen to receive any free services, including education.

- JEAN GOODRICK

Winnetka

Unwise, but forgiven

Race is way overblown these days. Political correctness has served society very badly and has contributed to racism where it doesn't belong. The Bible says that God made man in His own image, and that says to me that all men are equal and that no race has any advantage over another.

Councilman Keller showed a lack of wisdom, a lack of understanding of human nature and a lack of sensitive discretion in his utterance on racial proclivities. There are, in my judgment, only two kinds of people: the decent and the indecent. They come in all colors, shades and races and are distinguishable by their character and behavior. I believe that the councilman should be forgiven his biased, ad lib mouthing-

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off just as I would wish for myself, were I in his shoes.

- DONALD CLINTON

Los Angeles

He needs to own up

Who does he think this country was started by? It was immigrants who disenfranchised the Native Americans. Currently, we have immigrants from many countries, and I can personally tell you that most of them are hard workers and know their trade. It would help if they all paid into the Social Security systems and that is what needs to be addressed.

If there is a particular people or person disliked by Kellar, then he needs to own up; but to out-and-out say he is a racist and to hear another who knows him say he is for 'whites only' suggests he should not be in any political position. This is a weak City Council if they fail to oust him.

- LYNETTE GRISMORE

Valencia

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