



Comment on the Commentary of the Day

by

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Disclaimer: The following "Letters to the Editor" were sent to the respective publications on the dates indicated. Some were printed but many were not. The original articles that are being commented on may or may not be available on the internet and may require registration or subscription to access if they are. Some of the original articles are syndicated and therefore may have appeared in other publications also.

22 April 2006

The Editor, New York Times
229 West 43rd St.
New York, NY 10036

To the Editor:

Understandably disturbed by the Bush administration's unscientific dismissal of the medical potential of marijuana, you lament that this administration has a "habit of politicizing its scientific agencies" ("The Politics of Pot," April 22).

Sorry. The FDA is no scientific agency. It's a political agency - created by, funded by, staffed by, and overseen by politicians and their appointees. You're hallucinating when you imagine that such a creature can be free of the choking smoke, distorting mirrors, and narcotic poisons of politics.

21 April 2006

The Editor, New York Times
229 West 43rd St.
New York, NY 10036

To the Editor:

Your report "U.S. Crackdown Set Over Hiring of Immigrants" (April 21) could instead be headlined "U.S. Steps Up Effort to Stop Industrious People from Working."

Until Uncle Sam reverses his long-standing policy of actively restricting immigrants' employment opportunities, assertions that immigration must be curtailed because immigrants come here to sponge off of American taxpayers will ring hollow.

20 April 2006

The Editor, The New York Post

To the Editor:

Let me get this straight. Uncle Sam annually spends hundreds of billions of dollars more than he reaps in taxes. To finance his reckless deficit spending, he must borrow dollars. The Chinese oblige by lending him dollars. Congress and the administration then self-righteously accuse China of financial misconduct ("Bush, Hu Make Little Progress on Trade," April 20). Hmmm....

Uncle Sam is behaving like a drunkard who blames his alcoholism on Jack Daniels.

18 April 2006

Editor, The New York Post

To the Editor:

The recent outburst across America of xenophobia is distressing. I have some questions for people swept up in this ugly tribalism:

If immigrants seek to take American jobs, why worry that they will sponge off of American taxpayers?

If immigrants seek to sponge off of American taxpayers, why worry that they will take American jobs? And why does Uncle Sam issue so many regulations aimed at preventing immigrants from working?

And why are you so frightened of freedom?

17 April 2006

The Editor, Christian Science Monitor

To the Editor:

Michael Teitelbaum ("Immigration: the opinion gap," April 17) suggests that pro-immigration sentiment comes mostly from businesses who will gain from a larger supply of workers. Businesses might or might not drive the pro-immigration side of the debate. Either

way, an important point goes unmentioned. It is this:

If immigration lowers wages today, the resulting higher returns to capital will attract more investment into the United States tomorrow. As it drives profits back down to normal levels, this new investment also will ensure that worker productivity remains high and that demand for workers remains robust. Contrary to popular misconception, immigration is unlikely to lower wages in the long-run.