



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.

8 July 2006

The Editor, The Washington Times

To the Editor:

Thomas Sowell laments many Americans' lack of patriotism ("Is Patriotism Obsolete?" July 8). But contrary to Dr. Sowell's suggestion, patriotism was never key to America's success. The founders certainly weren't patriotic: they took up arms against their government.

America's greatness lies in her culture of individualism and her deep suspicion of all political power. The patriotism longed for by Dr. Sowell is poison to the freedom that makes America worth defending.

7 July 2006

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

To the Editor:

Prompted by a blackout at her home in rural Vermont to step away from her computer and notice the star-filled sky, Cynthia Emerlye hopes "we will all wake up someday, break these electronic bonds and walk into the waiting embrace of Mother Nature" (Letters, July 7).

News flash: without the electronic and commercial bonds that Ms. Emerlye wants us to "break," her belly and mind would likely have been too empty, and her dwelling and body too filthy, for her to appreciate starlight. Without modernity, Mother Nature's hold on us isn't an "embrace"; it's a death grip.

5 July 2006

Editor, The New Orleans
Times-Picayune

Dear Editor:

Bob Herbert quotes Hillary Clinton's remark that "a full time job that pays the minimum wage just doesn't provide enough money to support a family today" ("Working for a pittance," July 5).

Sad but true. But it's more sad that being unemployed at the minimum wage provides even less money to support a family.

While there is debate among researchers on the question of whether or not higher minimum wages put low-skilled workers out of jobs, for Bob Herbert blithely to assume that raising the minimum wage has no downside for low-skilled workers is careless. For Sen. Clinton to do so is predictably scandalous.

