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No justifying police conduct

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Posted: Saturday, September 17, 2016 6:00 am

Letter to the editor by Alvin Fiddler | 26 comments

Regarding The Chronicle-Journal editorial from Sept. 15, *Racism Claim Not Backed Up*:

The only thing worse than the conduct of Thunder Bay Police officers as reported by the CBC is the attempt by the police, and this newspaper, to justify it.

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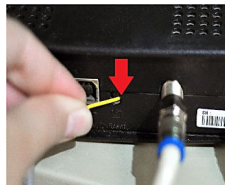
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26 comments:

[john doh](#) posted at 10:02 pm on Fri, Sep 30, 2016.

Posts: 95

Unfortunately Criticism has become racism in this country. Any opinion counter to First Nation's propaganda is met with disdain from the bleeding heart government and Cbc

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[just me](#) posted at 8:50 am on Fri, Sep 23, 2016.

Posts: 146

'Fiddler", made a very short comment as he was probably in a hurry to check out of his fancy hotel and make it to his steak and eggs breakfast, as HIS PEOPLE are living in squalor on reserves. He does nothing to assist the children on reserves other than demand meetings with politicians and cry for more tax payers money. Look in the mirror fiddler before you call others racist

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[Marisol](#) posted at 6:17 pm on Sun, Sep 18, 2016.

Posts: 35

Hate divides a community Mr Alvin Fiddler

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[RelaxingInMurillo](#) posted at 7:27 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 220

Im guessing the "spin" dept had the weekend off and this was a DIY from Mr Fiddler ?

A slightly more enhanced statement would have been more appropriate. Give us some facts, some names, some view from the top ?

I wasnt there for it, and we can grant that maybe the officer used an inappropriate tone or something that offended the teacher.. but still, really.. close up shop and start hollering racism for what was at root the questioning of anecdotal facts ??

Sorry, but you just lost a couple clicks worth of respect from me.

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[aswerdlyk](#) posted at 8:52 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 9

Mr. Fiddler never said the word "racism". You brought that word up. The Police in the training session were in fact "very rude" in my opinion. This only goes to show that more training sessions are required for our men and women on the front lines. And no one even said the police are doing a bad job at all. This was one instance. And why would Mr. Fiddler say any more? He likely knew that it didn't matter what he said or how much he said. Some people weren't gonna like what he said no matter what. No one person is perfect and certainly not on every job. That would be silly to assume so. The facilitator should definitely be entitled to an apology...my opinion.

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[RelaxingInMurillo](#) posted at 9:47 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.


Posts: 220


I did not mean Mr Fiddler, I meant the teacher. But, from my view, this seems to all boil down to it (racism) whether its "lack of understanding" or "questioning

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facts". Sadly, it's implied. I wish we could all just be one happy family, but that would be colonialism and racial genocide, I guess.

Whenever you have an interaction with someone, sometimes the type of words chosen can cause one or both parties to perceive things that are not intended. I think police are trained to interact in a way that helps them take control of a situation (ie, be the "boss"). This is very useful in a control situation, but hazardous (at times) to use in typical public conversation. I suspect the teacher was not ready for this (the other teachers seem to be).

You said "No one person is perfect and certainly not on every job". Im not sure if you were referring to Mr Fiddler, the police, or the teacher. Maybe all, eh ?

Peace.

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[chet](#) posted at 9:18 am on Sun, Sep 18, 2016.

Posts: 556

To aswerdlyk: There is no shortage of learned opinion here relating to an incident where no one was present. There is a broad attempt to exonerate the police based on a wide assortment of hypotheticals: this is just native spin, there was a misunderstanding, the letter writer is incompetent in his normal role as Grand Chief, which is the expected ad hominem attack.

But, as with any incident, there are contextual clues that have not been addressed. In the original report, the facilitator alleged that during the presentation, the police were laughing, but according to police's own defence of this, they were "laughing at a sidebar conversation" and not the presentation. The point is not what they were laughing about, but the fact that they were laughing during the presentation.

The facilitator also alleges that some officers "turned their chairs around during the presentation." This is the single most important allegation if true, simply because it is unmistakable in its intent. Did at least some police officers turn their chairs/backs on the presenter during the presentation? It is yes or no.

Third, the most contentious point is that under pressure to provide evidence of police insouciance and hence racism with respect to murdered women, it is alleged that the facilitator just packed up and left. But, according to the facilitator, there were also accusations where the facilitator was "accused of lying." Was the facilitator accused or not, because it is one thing to say "you are lying," and another to say "the statistics are wrong." In fact, there is a huge difference between the two.

I don't know what happened. The facilitator is not talking, and the police would likely prefer this incident to disappear. I would not indict the police based on what I know, but if asked the question as to whether the police may have conducted themselves inappropriately, I would say it is possible.

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[chezhank1](#) posted at 10:52 am on Sun, Sep 18, 2016.

Posts: 870

There should be an investigation into this matter and not by the city clerk's office or the state media.

Je suis henry wojak

[Log In](#) to report. | [Link](#)

[aswerdlyk](#) posted at 5:46 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 9

Very clearly and simply put Alvin. Well done.

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[Marisol](#) posted at 3:55 pm on Sun, Sep 18, 2016.

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Posts: 35

How about the Natives getting White sensitivity training?? They are the ones that need it bigshot

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Charlie posted at 4:16 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 126

Instead of trying to tear up the Police and divide the community with this letter why not promote peace and respect for once Sir

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Marisol posted at 3:57 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 35

This letter is COMPLETE nonsense. I face racism almost everyday at my job from Natives, what are you going to do about that Mr Fiddler??

I will patiently wait a response..

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Khan posted at 3:54 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 394

@talltree, Alvin knows how flimsy the Aboriginal Industry house of cards is. Of course he was supposed to respond to baseless allegations but he knows he doesn't have any support besides the usual "allies" he would normally rely on to do his work for him.

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Talltree posted at 3:35 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 34

Alvin, considering your position I would have expected a much more intelligent response. But that was brutally inane. No wonder your people are floundering on the northern reserves, when it has leadership of your caliber.

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Jihn posted at 12:56 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 68

Wow!! political correctness getting butt kicked. Can this be the Trump effect swinging the pendulum back to the center. Sooner or later Alvin, we will be rid of the Liberals and you are going to be held accountable yourself.

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Jihn posted at 12:13 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 68

can you help us move along that fire on bridge investigation.

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jfsyqt posted at 11:27 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 147

Often it is the people yelling "Racist!" who are the real racists. Look into a mirror, Alvin, and ask that person you see there what they can do for their people to improve their lives, instead of fiddling while the people suffer. There is so much more the chiefs can do to improve the living conditions in the communities. Do it!

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jfsyqt posted at 11:07 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 147

Many times it the the folks yelling "Racist" who are the real racists. Time to look in the mirror, Alvin, and see what you can do for your people and to stop fiddling while your people are suffering from your own neglect.

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xtraxtra posted at 10:37 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 2121

Repeat offenders don't get much sympathy from the police, or the community whose lives they constantly disrupt. Get your house in order first Alvin.

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Mcdonor posted at 9:19 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 22

The Thunder Bay City Police do an excellent job and kudos to their efforts! The majority of tax paying citizens support them 100%! Enough with the false claims of racism, it is growing quite old!

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Great White Shark posted at 12:50 pm on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 466

Seconded!

our police do a good job for having one of their hands politically tied behind their backs.

The chief and his budget blowing isn't so good, but everything cant be perfect. They need to get that under control.

as for the officers on the ground? They are excellent.

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Great White Shark posted at 8:58 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 466

Awww its cute to see the victim industry's arms flailing around uncontrollably while they cry "victim" over and over again and nobody is listening to them anymore.

Hey Alvin...There's no justifying your conduct either.

Too bad, so sad.

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Khan posted at 8:40 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 394

Aw. We're the chief's feelings hurt because their fabricated facts were called into question and were asked to provide evidence for their claims? That's called the real world. Welcome to it.

[Log In](#) to report. | [Link](#) [Reply](#)
chezhank1 posted at 7:17 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 870

What would one expect from state media!

Mr.Fiddler should also not forget hannam the city clerk who also sits on the police board.

When I asked a question at the testing of the voting tabulators at city hall he had me escorted from the building. But hannam now tries to excuse the constabulary ,a double standard exists at city hall.

At least there is the Ontario Ombudsman to file complaints with against the cabal at city hall.

Je suis henry wojak

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Jihn posted at 6:16 am on Sat, Sep 17, 2016.

Posts: 68

They were not justifying it, the police were giving their side of the story, which they are entitled too. You don't like what you hear, too bad. Sometimes the truth hurts.

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northman posted at 6:17 pm on Sun, Sep 18, 2016.

Posts: 43

As long as the police are telling the truth. They have being caught telling lies on the stand during court cases many times. Im sorry but the police are not perfect and they need to stop protecting the bad ones. Don't get me wrong, I do support the police but not the ones who treat the general public like the enemy.

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