168 Boston Hill Road

Andover, CT 06232

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Editor

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Glastonbury, CT 06033

To The Editor:

Not to detract from Annie Steinbrecher's debt ceiling point, but the quote about 25% of our debt coming during Trump's budgets needs context. As Obama's budgets ended, 42% of all debt had been incurred during his two terms; for Bush Jr., it was 50% in two; for Clinton, 24% in two; for Bush Sr., 35% in one; for Reagan, 65% in two; for Carter, 30% in one. Clinton was the only one far better than Trump; Bush Sr. and Reagan were far worse.

Regarding our nonconformist, Sam Prentice says he always, "performs my own due diligence on the information I seek and receive." This from someone who lamely attempts to rebut established climate science by invoking charlatan Tony Heller? This from someone who – recycling stories from Fox News, The Daily Caller, and The New York Post – claims his independent Clinton Foundation research reaches the exact conclusion they did, and clings to it even as it's demolished by experts.

Think of the folderol about Critical Race Theory. In 2020, the entire "do your own research" posse simultaneously did their own research about a discipline unchallenged since its 1975 introduction, and amazingly reached identical conclusions... unrelated of course to Fox's incessant hype. Totally coincidental independent investigations by these nonconformists made them all write anti-CRT letters to the *Rivereast*.

Choosing lesser-known and less-respected sources of information is not independent research. Acting just like everyone else in the smaller crowd is not nonconformity.

Note, *Scientific American* does not practice science but explains and popularizes science. Just like *National Geographic* describing but not practicing anthropology, or *People* reporting on performers but not performing itself. Also, I'm curious: If "Leftist Democrats are the most destructive and devastating forces in the world," where do Leftist Independents, Centrist Democrats and MAGA Republicans fall on the scale?

Sincerely,

Scott Sauyet,

[scott@sauyet.com](mailto:scott@sauyet.com)

(860) 742-9800 (H)

(860) 335-2869 ©

P.S. Not for publication, but for fact-checking the budget numbers:

<https://www.thebalancemoney.com/us-debt-by-president-by-dollar-and-percent-3306296>

An example, "President H.W. Bush added $1.55 trillion to the debt, a 54% increase from the $2.857 trillion debt at the end of Reagan's last budget." So 54 / (100 + 54) = .350649..., or 35% was incurred during his budgets.

For the Clinton Foundation, I've quoted the relevant research in previous letters:

[https://letters.sauyet.com/#/topic/Clinton+Foundation/](https://letters.sauyet.com/" \l "/topic/Clinton+Foundation/)

For CRT,

<https://www.nytimes.com/article/what-is-critical-race-theory.html> or

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_race_theory>

For Global warming, just read practically any scientific survey.