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TODAY'S "QUICK HIT": BJORN LOMBORG: AN OPPORTUNITY TO FIND COMMON GROUND IN THE CLIMATE DEBATE!



By Stephen L. Bakke 🏁 September 27, 2016

Here's what provoked me:

A recent "back and forth" opinion and "counterpoint" focused on the ideas of a fellow whose books I have read and speeches I have listened to. Bjorn Lomborg comes from a different perspective than do I, but I like what he says. I can usually "buy off" on the ideas he has about how this planet should "deal with" the problems it faces, and not always try to prevent the inevitable. While Lomborg sincerely seeks solutions, he applies common sense to every problem he tackles.

Here's my response:

Bjorn Lomborg: An Opportunity to Find Common Ground in the Climate Debate!

On September 22, Bjorn Lomborg offered a thoughtful analysis of dealing with climate change in Opinion Exchange – "Feel good solutions won't solve climate change". On September 27, Jim Davidson reacted to Lomborg in his Counterpoint – "Solar and wind are viable – not just 'feel-good' climate solutions."

While giving brief appreciative "lip-service" to part of Lomborg's presentation, Davidson slips into his ideology by stating the following about Lomborg's overall approach: "That said This is fiction at best and fabrication at worst." Davidson was referring to Lomborg's concern about other challenges like poverty and disease, and their relationship to what he considers ineffective approaches to energy – specifically "wind and solar."

Many climate zealots and skeptics alike might finally find some tactical common ground by listening to Lomborg's recommendations. For years he has been a voice of common sense by philosophically straddling both sides of the debate: those believing humans contribute to climate change VS. those afraid of the radical ideas suggested to eliminate carbon emissions. Lomborg is a voice of compromise and reason. He acknowledges problems, but then pushes for practical, affordable ways to effectively deal with those problems. He is skeptical about expensive, highly speculative approaches to eliminate carbon emissions.

The two sides to the debate can decide to just attack each other and verbally beat each other up, but that results only in the "status quo." Alternatively, let's listen more to Mr. Lomborg. I think he may be part of an achievable, practical solution to effectively deal with the situation.