

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **YOU SAY: REAL EXPERTS DON'T TWEET OR USE SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR COMMENTARY! I SAY: YOU HUSH!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  February 29, 2014

#### *Here's what provoked me:*

*I read an article back in February titled: "Real Experts Don't Tweet." Something about the elitist delivery "got under my saddle" and I just had to jump into the fray. His point came from an elitist point of view that common citizens should just hush up and let the quiet, thoughtful experts inform us and make decisions for us.*

#### *Here's my response:*

**We know best! - Micah Zenko's article on 2-26-14 re: "Real Experts Don't Tweet"** - As I read Zenko's article, I wondered about the point he was making/defending. Here is what I come away with! He's telling the great mass of common citizens to "just hush" and let "he and other experts" tell us what's important and what to think about politics and public policy.

He declares that "real experts" don't publicly express themselves because of restrictions (by contract or choice) in what they say and write. He minimizes the legitimacy of social media and seems to suggest that those expressing themselves (e.g. tweeters/common citizens) are by definition not informed enough to be taken seriously.

Such elitism is one of the things we are fighting against in this paternalistic world. They tell us "we know what's best for you, so just relax and we'll decide." That concept I reject! It smacks of comments expressed by Saul Alinsky who had a very low regard for the common man (the "Have-Nots"): "The 'Have-Nots' have little faith in the worth of their own judgments. They still look to the judgments of the 'Haves' ... It is essential that issues be simple enough to be communicated ... people do not know what they want."

So just sit back and relax, "Have Nots." Let Zenko and his minions make decisions for you and don't you dare think and analyze too deeply and express your opinion publicly.

To which I emphatically respond: Mr. Zenko - YOU HUSH!

