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 **TODAY'S "QUICK HIT":**  
**CHECK YOUR**  
**FACTS AND**  
**ASSERTIONS!**  
**PLEASE!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  September 16, 2016

*Here's what provoked me:*

*A well-intended letter writer fell into the trap of using unsubstantiated "internet traffic" as a basis to scold an earlier writer. It involved an important topic regarding police, guns, BLM, and interracial crime. Such a topic deserves some attention to details and accurate information.*

*Here's my response:*

**Check Your Facts and Assertions! Please!**

On September 16 Marlon Micou presented an unhelpful "scold" ("Black lives"). The "scoldee" is Craig Cohea who had a letter published on August 7 ("UNI graffiti"). Micou claims inaccuracy in Cohea's facts and offers his own version.

Contrary to Micou's assertions, Cohea would never deny that white criminals do kill innocent black people. Also, Mr. Micou, there definitely have been legitimate studies on gun violence, and the black-on-black murder rate does materially exceed the white-on-white rate – if measured on a basis proportionate to the population!

The writer also claims there is no relationship between Black Lives Matter and the terrible incident in Ferguson, Mo. An honest assessment could only conclude the rise to prominence of BLM has everything to do with the aftermath of the Ferguson police-involved shooting of Michael Brown.

Finally, Micou accuses Cohea of using phony internet statistics and narratives. I can only react by asking the writer where he got the narrative he used in this letter. To me it's very obvious.

Please, meaningful debate can only follow an accurate presentation of the facts!