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Gaslighting is destructive and divisive

By Steve Bakke 🎘 September 12, 2020



I knew what it was but didn't know what to call it. I'm referring to "gaslighting," a tool available to any special interest group or political party. Gaslighting happens when politicians or media reports assert something that's at odds with what we are clearly witnessing. Here are some recent examples that conflict directly with my observations and objective conclusions.

Consider the claim that the protesters and violent, destructive rioters are clearly separate groups. In truth, they're becoming indistinguishable. How about the destruction of inner cities due to rampant murder, gang violence, and drug dealing? After witnessing all of that, we are told the problem isn't crime, but rather, it's caused almost exclusively by the police. Factual studies and statistics assure us otherwise.

During high school and college, Martin Luther King taught us that we should judge people by their character and soul, not by the color of their skin. For me, one of the hardest things to understand is why, today, that attitude is considered racist. Gaslighting is a destructive and divisive tactic.

And I thought Chico Marx was joking when, in the 1933 movie "Duck Soup," he scoffed: "Who are you going to believe, me or your own eyes?"