

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you about an article that appeared in a recent issue of the “Gringo Gazette”. The article alleges there was gross misconduct out on the East Cape. Since I am unaware of any details of what transpired, other than what was “reported”, I do not feel the need to comment on the article. However, in the “From the Publisher” section, written by Carrie Duncan, I read such transparent vitriolic diatribe that, it pleaded for a response.

Carrie Duncan is proud of the fact that she is not a journalist. The paper was started, in part, because she owned the print shop.

Granted, however the paper started is irrelevant. Where the line must be drawn and, the reason for this letter is that no one, especially a publisher of a paper, should be allowed to abuse their power to destroy people’s lives.

In the article, Ms. Duncan states “I thought we don’t take the law into our own hands”. Then, in the very next sentence, she states “There is an absence of law enforcement officials to thump civil behavior into their noggins with a police baton”. What are you advocating Carrie? The appropriate criminal justice system, which we do have in place down here, being allowed to come to a collective decision or, allowing the police to be judge, jury and executioner.

Ms. Duncan then states “ I am not a peace officer, and this is not my country. All I can do is shine the light of my little tourist rag on these cockroaches, and hope that the appropriate authorities will go out to the East Cape and do their job”.

Then, in the very next sentence, she states “These arrogant racist bastards need to be deported”.

Give me a break Carrie. First of all, if you ever signed up for a journalism class, you would be told, time and again, “shining the light” is reporting the facts, and nothing more. However, it became obvious throughout your article that you had a deep emotional involvement with this issue. Maybe it was because you felt you were “ambushed”. Maybe you savored an excellent opportunity to increase advertising by having this article on the lips of all the locals down here. Whatever the reason, you went way over the top on this one.

For Ms. Duncan to call someone a racist bastard is like asking Col. Colt his opinion on gun control. The Gringo Gazette is one of the most blatantly racist papers I have ever read, with such invectives as “Japs” “Frogs” “TMO (for typical Mexican organization)”, “Mexicans snuffed out in accident”. Ms. Duncan and her Mexican editor may think this

Archie Bunker mentality is funny... I know most people who live here full time, including Mexicans do not. From my viewpoint, it shows nothing more than a lack of education and anger. Since I believe 90% of all anger emanates from fear, maybe Ms. Duncan should engage in a serious self-evaluation about what she fears. However, I digress.

For Ms. Duncan to actually have the unmitigated gall to advocate someone being deported, really sent me through the ceiling. This is the same person who called Mexican Immigration here in Los Cabos, "Gestapo". To proudly advocate throwing someone out of the country, ruining their lives, without do process, is about as low as the Gringo Gazette can go. It appears that Ms. Duncan vacillates between American jurisprudence, where you are innocent until proven guilty, to Napoleonic (the law of Mexico), where you are guilty until proven innocent. You cannot have it both ways and, you certainly create more confusion and angst when you juxtapose the two.

Ms. Duncan, who does not live down here, in fact, only "visits" for a short period each month, does not speak for this community. Granted, the English speaking locals are starved for information of which, the Gringo Gazette provides. However, to abuse that power and propose punishment on individuals prior to sentencing, should not be tolerated.

I love this country and, I am here by choice. God knows, I could be making more money in the United States. I chose Baja because it fit my lifestyle. Maybe I should fear being deported or not having my FM 3 renewed as a result of this letter. However, I cannot remain silent on this issue. Unlike Ms. Duncan, I have faith in the legal system down here... it may be slow, but it works. The article written by Ms. Duncan has created a chasm in this community. I pray to the good Lord that the locals here in Baja perceive the only value in this journalistic piece of guttersnipe... is for wrapping fish.

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