

**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** John Gg <jcaravel1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 3:47 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Adam, Peter; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** Racial Equity & Covert White Supremacy



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I show solidarity with BLM SB in their demands of the city and law enforcement agencies. Y'all should be honored to have such empathetic and powerful people in this community.

My main comment, however, is about Sheriff Bill Brown, the propagandist. But because he is covert in his tactics, many genuinely believe that he is willing to have a sincere dialogue. But he's not. His worldview is stagnant.

I took some time to transcribe the Goleta special city council meeting attended by Brown on June 8th. I want to comment on some of what he said during the meeting.

Brown thinks that people are too emotional right now to have an impartial conversation about the issues facing our society. He said: "I just want you to know that we are here for the community and you to address these issues. But I would also caution that we recognize that this is a very emotional time, a very difficult time and certain people are calling for certain things that are very troubling, frankly."

Within the first minute of speaking, he turns the shame towards the public. During a meeting about condemning systemic, institutional racism and police brutality.

What about his takes on what's going on in the country right now?

"You may have read that the city council has voted to dismantle the police dept in Minneapolis. To me that would be tantamount to having a doctor who committed a malpractice occurrence who worked at a hospital and the idea is we're gonna shut down the hospital because we had this problem at the hospital. It doesn't make sense."

Sharp listeners might recognize this as a faulty analogy (with covert appeals to the erroneous "bad apple" argument). And it is. But I'm more interested in Brown's comment at the end. To dismiss an entire community – with a high percentage of black people at that – by saying that "it doesn't make sense" is to gaslight the people whose voices are at the center of this movement.

These tactics are not impartial. The police as an institution is not impartial. Rational dialogue only works when all parties are engaging in good faith. But Brown does not meet even this minimum requirement.

In addressing a question about the diversity of his police force in a meeting where the resolution focused on systemic racism, *Brown did not say anything about the racial makeup of his deputies in Goleta.*

Well, you may think, at least we can go out there and get the data regarding racial disparities in police outcomes ourselves. When a council member asked whether such data was readily available to the public, and if not, what we can do to request it, Brown responded as so:

“the information is not on our website unfortunately...not even readily available to us because we have had a problem with our ability to collect and gather and analyze data. it has been one of my asks of the board for about the last five or six budget years to get a position that would be a data manager for our organization. we have the data but it's just not very easily accessible to us, unfortunately.”

Did he provide the board and public with instructions on how they could make a request for the data? Of course not.

So why are our councilmembers not calling him out? Do they really believe he is engaging in good faith? Why won't they call him out? How is the community supposed to engage in dialogues with an eye on systemic change when the people in power are unwilling? Unfortunately, I think, our political machine is more interested in decorum than mutual understanding. And that's a fucking shame.

Best,

John Caravello