

May 05, 2007

STOCKTON COLUMNIST SAYS IM TOO SQUEAMISH ABOUT STOCKTON'S MURDER MAP



Stockton Record Columnist Michael Fitzgerald responds to my aversion to his [employer's decision](#) to create an online Murder Map. [He Blogs...](#)

I don't speak for this paper, but his objection seems [Pollyanna](#). Reportage of the county's crime problem stirs up the public and puts pressure on officials to take constructive action. The treatment of a problem begins with its diagnosis.

Something tells me that *Pollyanna* might have a better chance playing "[The Glad Game](#)" in **Elk Grove** Rather than **Stockton**. But *Im* biased. You see, when it comes to me...I like to wake up everyday *unmurdered*. Im funny that way. like ive written [before](#). There is just something about murder that rubs me the wrong way. Like The part about *getting pointlessly killed by a lunatic*. That could be it.

i dont live in a city where i have a high chance of that happening Because i like myself a whole bunch. i like giving myself *the gift of life*.

So - when The City Paper turns to online map creation to help locate were Stockton's chronic homicides occur, it certainly starts to get really creepy. If this is an attempt at local media activism (*see, we told you the crime problem is*

really, really baaaaaad...') Well, I guess that's fine. But its still morbid.

I don't think that Michael and I have a large difference of opinion on this issue. but If you really think about it, I don't think that the media coverage of the rampant crime problem has made much of a difference to the old guard city officials at all.

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April 20, 2007

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY IS SAFE: LOCAL PAPER CREATES HANDY-DANDY HOMICIDE MAP



Well, call me crazy, but the editorial decision to Create an interactive on-line [murder map](#) - just for your county - might just be a little on the morbid side.

But then again, the killing are mostly occurring in **Stockton**, the unofficial murder capital of California.

The Bad news is that 14 2007 murders as of 4/20 is on pace to close in on last year's cheery quota of 61 murders.

The bright side is that [The Record](#) wins the coveted - *Jason almost spewed out his coffee on the computer screen when he found this* - award.