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We, alumni and current students of both the Masters of Public Policy and Masters of Public Administration of the Hatfield School of Government, write to express our unadulterated disappointment in Dr. Bruce Gilley's publication, "The Case for Colonialism," in *Third World Quarterly*. As alumni and current students who benefited greatly from attending the Hatfield School of Government, we write to distance ourselves from any and all potential affiliation with the ideas, opinions, and thoughts conveyed within Gilley's demonstrably pseudo-scholarship publication.


As academics, practitioners, and professionals, we recognize the importance of maintaining the integrity of academic freedom, but the duty of care expected as an academic has been breached by Professor Gilley. Gilley's research manages to demonstrate a lack of understanding of empirical, factual, and rigorous scholarship. While wearing the lens of an oppressor, Gilley attempts to normalize the systemic oppressive and racist structures of colonialism and fails to accurately negotiate the history of colonial rule and its lasting impacts. In an attempt to rewrite the facts of history, the article neglects to consider a wealth of scholarship on the historic and lingering impacts of the violent and tyrannical rule of colonial nations.


The suggestion that some areas should be recolonized by Western nations absent the consideration of exacerbating the exploitation of local populations is irresponsible and unconscionable. Furthermore, Gilley's assumption that the export of imperialistic culture and values are somehow more desirable for local populations in previously colonized states lacks honest investigation into the perceptions and beliefs of local populations.

Ultimately, the article published by Professor Gilley lacks the expectations and standards that we have of the Hatfield School of Government, College of Urban and Public Affairs, and Portland State University. Our dissatisfaction and frustration with Gilley's lack of responsible academic exploration cannot be understated. We hope that the Hatfield School and the College of Urban and Public Affairs will take the appropriate steps in disassociating themselves from Gilley's research to protect their reputations and the legacy of their students.

Regards,

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