

# OPINION

EDITORIALS

LETTERS

## Don't blame libertarians

Re "Yes, Exxon Mobil misled," Opinion, Sept. 1

Naomi Oreskes and Geoffrey Supran provide a compelling summary of how Exxon Mobil's "advertisements" in the New York Times deviated from the findings provided by the company's own scientists and from the corporation's responses to the researchers' work on climate change.

But Oreskes' and Supran's reference to "doubt-mongering and misdirection by ... libertarian think tanks in response to the scientific evidence" is misleading.

Libertarians embrace the objectivity on which science relies but are skeptical about alarmist claims that might serve as spurious rationales for public intrusion into private lives. Interrogating the data, assumptions and accuracy of the complex models employed by climate scientists is a necessary part of the peer review process Oreskes and Supran invoke, some of which apparently got under their skin.

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