

Re: Barack Obama Pits Space Explorers Against School Children

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 - *Date:* Tue, 04 Dec 2007 12:58:37 GMT
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On Mon, 3 Dec 2007 20:12:37 -0500, in a place far, far away, "Jonathan" <write@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> made the phosphor on my monitor glow in such a way as to indicate that:

It's pretty clear the military will lead the way into space.

That is not clear at all.

The risk to earth from colonies are numerous. For one their immense expense could drain our national budget. Their military uses mean society would get little in return aside from geopolitical advantages. And the notion that colonies are somehow more sustainable, more civilized and stable than an earthbound community is silly.

Just because they're designed by scientists only means trouble, not a paradise.

They won't be designed by scientists. They will be designed by engineers and architects.

With the rigid military like environments too small for democratic or market forces to play out. And the emotional and psychological stress of isolation, and I bet long tours of duty. I would think that colonies would be rife with conflict and difficult as possible to sustain.

I'm picturing a job somewhat like ..oh.. spending all day underwater welding, for the military. So there's no money, no fun and no place to go except back to work. Great view, but otherwise a living hell.

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Why do people seem to fantasize so much about colonies?

Because they don't think about them as stupidly as you do.

<rest of jonathan gibberish snipped>

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