

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

**James Flynn & Walter Benn Michaels ...**

... opposite sides of the world, same side of the debate.

That is, read Flynn's passage: Tolerance school fallacy ... Somehow my coining this term has not made it into common currency, but no doubt that is merely a matter of time. It underlines the fallacy of concluding that we should respect the good of all because nothing can be shown to be good. This fallacy puts a spurious value on ethical skepticism by assuming that it entails tolerance, while the attempt to justify your ideals is labeled suspect as a supposed source of intolerance. It surfaced in William James, was embraced by anthropologists such as Ruth Benedict, and is now propagated by postmodernists who think they invented it. James R. Flynn, *What is Intelligence?*, Cambridge University Press, 2006, p.150.

Compare this to Michaels' *The Trouble With Diversity*.

Posted by Jason Wojciechowski in Books at 09:11