



Straight Talk

by Muriel Sluyter

Terrorists, Compassion & Reality

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Greetings, Gentle Reader,

Though many people returning from Iraq tell us the bulk of the Iraqi people are grateful for America and the freedom from Saddam we have given them, we hear a constant shriek of hysteria coming from the president's political opponents. They say all Iraqis hate us, and we must leave Iraq.

Most Americans would prefer that we get out of Iraq, but we live in a critically dangerous world. Many leading Democrats saw domestic and foreign intelligence prior to our invasion that convinced them the U.S. and the rest of the world was in grave danger of attack. Though most Democrats have since suffered a severe attack of amnesia, their statements to that effect are indisputably on tape and in print for all to see.

They say we can't win, because even the Israelis haven't found a way to beat terrorism. The truth is, the Israelis know how to deal with terrorists, but until recently, they've been fighting with one hand tied behind their backs. They've tried to submit to our requirements on one side, while struggling to survive on the other. Finally, they've abandoned that system and have gone after the terrorist leaders themselves.

We're trying to do in Iraq what we have insisted the Israelis do.

We've tried to comply with requests of the Iraqi Governing Council to "play nice/don't fight" with the terrorists. It hasn't worked in Israel, and it won't work in Iraq, because terrorists respect nothing but power.

The Iraqi terrorists would love to have us play nice, that way they will gain the whip hand. But while we repair schools and hospitals and show respect for mosques and imams with one hand, the other must hold a fully loaded rifle, safety off and sights polished.

Does this mean we should abandon that country to the terrorists? No, because we have to destroy terrorism where we find it, otherwise it will continue to come to us. It has been doing that for twenty years - with great success - and it won't stop until we stop it.

Can we pacify the terrorists by showing them we want to help them escape tyranny? Dumb question! They like tyranny. Besides, they don't care what we want. They have been fed a toxic, exceptionally bitter mix of religious and racial hatred from birth. The chance that we can help them develop a taste for the milk and honey of human kindness isn't good. In fact, it hovers somewhere between minus zero and "You've gotta be kidding!"

The tragedy is these "holy warriors" have been brainwashed to think we are crusaders and must be killed, and the Jews are descendants of apes and pigs and must be killed. (Their excuse for slaughtering untold numbers of their fellow Africans is simply that they are not Muslim.) This is their sacred mandate. How else could their leaders persuade them to blow themselves to smithereens to get to their 72 virgins?

If you tell young boys lies in a sufficiently hate-filled, repetitive, hypnotic manner for enough years, you program them to hate as you hate, convince them they are victims as you declare yourself to be a victim, teach them that killing is a virtue, as you believe killing is a virtue. Eventually, they will do anything to alleviate the sense of outrage you have programmed into them, including blowing themselves up.

Their leaders never blow themselves up. They are vicious and evil, indeed, conscienceless rapists, mutilators and murderers, but they're not downright stupid. Too bad so many of their mindless followers become all of the above.