

# The New Criterion

## Letters

September 2008

### “Free speech in an age of jihad”: a response

by [Andrew C. McCarthy](#)

*Andrew C. McCarthy responds:*

Leave it to a lawyer. Rachel Ehrenfeld did not attempt to market her book in England. She repeated allegations already publicly asserted by current and former U.S. officials about Sheikh bin Mahfouz, his Muwafaq charity (described by the Treasury as “an al Qaeda front”), and his chosen assistant (formally designated a global terrorist under U.S. law). She took pains to warn that bin Mahfouz denies having funded terrorists. So what’s Barrister Blackburn’s suggestion? Why, she should hire a lawyer, of course.

That is, she should bankrupt herself litigating in a foreign country against a Saudi banking magnate with limitless resources, who has already demonstrated a willingness to expend *hundreds of millions of dollars* in his New York fraud litigation, and who has scoured the globe to find an extraordinarily friendly ear in a British judge who, ...

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This article originally appeared in The New Criterion, Volume 27 September 2008, on page 80

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