

# The New Criterion

August 2005

## The myth of control

by [James Bowman](#)

*On the “first article of faith” of “those whose political starting point is the need to change the world.”*

A few days ago, the anti-war left and high-ranking members of the Democratic party—which increasingly speak with one voice on matters of national security—bitterly attacked President Bush for linking, once again, the war in Iraq to the terror attacks of four years ago in his speech at Fort Bragg. “This war reached our shores on September 11th, 2001,” Bush told his audience. “The terrorists who attacked us—and the terrorists we face—murder in the name of a totalitarian ideology that hates freedom.” The enemy in Iraq, he said, “are followers of the same murderous ideology that took the lives of our citizens in New York and Washington and Pennsylvania.” Harry Reid, the Minority Leader in the Senate, immediately took him up, saying that “numerous references to September 11th did not provide a way forward in Iraq” but only “served to remind the American people that our most dangerous enemy, nam ...

**James Bowman** is the author of *Honor: A History* (Encounter Books) and *Media Madness: The Corruption of Our Political Culture*, also published by Encounter (2008) .

[more from this author](#)

This article originally appeared in The New Criterion, Volume 23 August 2005, on page 0

Copyright © 2012 The New Criterion | [www.newcriterion.com](http://www.newcriterion.com)

<http://www.newcriterion.com/articles.cfm/the-myth-of-control-1348>