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## The Post-Standard

### The West's fear, self-indulgence, silence aid terrorists

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By Laurence Thomas

The terrorists will win. They already are winning the battles; it is simply a matter of time before they win the war.

The terrorists will win because both this nation and the people of Europe lack the resolve it takes to fight and defeat them. The terrorists are brilliantly playing the card of religious expression, while we in the West have become so besotted with the acceptance of difference that we lack the will to distinguish sharply between the perfectly respectful desire to worship the Almighty under the description of one's choosing, and the abominable determination to kill and dominate others in the name of the Almighty.

The terrorists will win because they have nothing to lose if they try and fail, whereas we here in the West have become so concerned with the amenities of life (such as our gas-guzzling SUVs) that, lest we should have to forgo them, we would rather appease evil itself.

Thus, terrorists have the upper hand psychologically, precisely because fear of loss cannot wrack their lives as it can ours. And it is this fear of loss that they are masterfully exploiting.

Fear of loss has pitted Europe and the United States against one another. The truth of the matter is not that Europe is more open-minded than America. Rather, Europe is desperately fearful of what the huge Arabic Muslim population on its soil might do - so much so that the European Union refused to publish its own commissioned report indicating that the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe is owing to young Muslim youth.

Since 9/11, France has hermetically sealed all the waste receptacles of its vast metro system, lest they should conveniently be used to plant a terrorist bomb. No one will dare say who the supposed terrorists might be. Blacks? Jews? Latinos? The silence here is yet another victory for the terrorists.

A mere decade ago, the very idea of another genocide attempt against Jews seemed nothing more than fantasy. Not so today, when otherwise decent people hold that suicide bombings are justified, even if they kill innocent Jewish citizens of Israel on their way to school and work. How many suicide bombings equal an attempt at genocide? Terrorists have one more victory to their credit.

Although we here in the West rightly denounce child sexual abuse as abominable, we turn a blind eye to the reality that terrorists are training children to be suicide bombers. Acceptance of differences, or hypocrisy? In either case, it is yet another victory for the terrorists.

Nothing serves evil better than self-absorption, ambivalence, and distraction, and we here in the West have made these art forms. The terrorists are focused, fearless, willing to die for their cause. We, on the other hand, want to negotiate. We in the West simply don't have the will to win. The terrorists know it, and are counting on it.

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