

## OPINIONS

IN defense of "Berkeleyites and wimps": we don't love our country any less than our flag-waving, war-chanting compatriots, we just don't believe unconditional praise and absolute acquiescence is the best way to help our government achieve its aim. By dissenting, we are being responsible citizens. Calm reason and the right to dissent is what characterizes America. If we're to be ostracized for not agreeing with the government's course of action, then what's to separate us from, well, Afghanistan or Iraq?

We believe that to combat terrorism, rational analysis is more effective than all the vitriol in the world. As we see it, our well-meaning but sobriety-challenged compatriots calling for a show of force are using the lives of our soldiers and innocent civilians abroad to vent their anger and frustration, whereas us "wimps" are happy to stay focused on bringing the perpetrators to justice and keeping the country safe. Who's the real patriot now?

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