

Willow Walker Autumn Issue Competition

HOW WOULD YOU END THE WAR ON TERROR

Fiona Revell's Winning Answer

I think the so called War on Terror is a very complex issue and all be it a controversial statement I feel to a certain extent George Bush is verging on being a terrorist himself.

Having made that point I feel that removing him and the varying sheep (Tony Blair et al) from power and replacing them with less power hungry, paranoid war-mongers who are prepared to understand and negotiate with 'terrorists' would be a step in the right direction.

It seems there are two main factors that have created this dire situation. The first is the western belief that our way is the only way is the only way and any country or faction who doesn't agree is evil and needs to be changed by whatever means we see fit, so therefore creating a breeding ground for extremism. The second (and although denied is probably the main factor) is the resources and therefore wealth within the countries named within the axis of evil.

This I feel was proven by the fact that when we invaded Iraq the first directive given to the troops was to secure the oil fields.

In conclusion I feel tolerance, negotiation and the general acceptance of other cultures and religions would be a large step in the ladder towards peace. We will only escalate the problem if we continue to blame everyone other than ourselves and alienate others. If we realise that not all cultures are bad because they don't fit our ideals and stop trying to force our beliefs upon others then young disenchanted youths will not be enticed into extremist terrorist groups.

All in all I feel we have to certain degree caused this situation and due to our arrogant belief that we are always right have lost control and maybe need to, in a manner of speaking, lose face and accept our mistakes and agree to work with varying factions.