



Torture, Guantánamo and the Bush and Post-Bush Era: Remembering Human Rights?

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The American response to the attacks on September 11, 2001 brought about a paradigm shift. Civil liberties were curtailed, war was declared on terrorism, and torture was justified by the Bush administration, as was the incarceration of terrorist suspects for indefinite amounts of time without legal representation. American ideals of freedom and liberty were undermined, and America's standing in the world was vastly diminished.

This talk reviews the Bush era's abuses of human rights and speculates about what the change in administrations will mean for the treatment of terrorist suspects and Guantánamo Bay. It asks if we can look forward to a period of America's once again representing the ideal of freedom from tyranny.