

Where The Freedom Is

"Where is the freedom?" **asks the demonstrator.**

Well, um... if he didn't have a bag over his head, he might be able to see the incongruity of his question.

Explanation: The point of our comment above seems to be unclear to some readers. It is simply that a released ex-prisoner staging an angry protest outside the building where the prison guards who mistreated him are on trial, while soldiers stand unconcerned in the background protecting his right to do so, is about as close as one could get to encapsulating the concept of political freedom in a single picture. That he himself cannot see this, and that his placard asks where the freedom is, is an intense irony, to which the bag over his head gives additional symbolic emphasis.

Fri, 05/21/2004 - 02:22 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permalink](#)

Idiotarian troll

Yeah, but where are the WMDs?

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 02:28 | [reply](#)

Maybe he's afraid he'll be identified

As someone from oh, lets say Pennsylvania?

Hey Marge come look! Eds on the t.v.

be well,
Rachel Ann

by [RachelAnn](#) on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 06:18 | [reply](#)

Adding insult to injury

I must have misunderstood the posting, but it seems to me that you are making fun of the former prisoner on the basis that he is not fluent in English and in politics and in etc. etc.. Torture in Iraq prisons is a shame for coalition forces - do you have an urge to bring it up and elaborate on it. Most readers will use this as a

perfect opportunity to make fun of you because of another shameful fact - absence of alleged WMD in Iraq.

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 08:45 | [reply](#)

Indeed

The last commentator is correct. Who's to say what that man went through? If he was falsely imprisoned (or worse), then he has a right to be angry and a right to ask for justice. Which, presumably, is what he is really doing.

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 10:14 | [reply](#)

Right to be angry

If he indeed is who he says he is...

There just seems to be something fishy with that photo...that is what i meant.

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 10:28 | [reply](#)

WMD

Yes, the "absence of alleged WMD" is precisely correct. Now that the required tests conclusively prove their presence.

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 17:56 | [reply](#)

No oppression by definition

If I read you correctly, there can be no oppression because if there is, and people protest against it, it means that there isn't. Your theory of freedom and oppression is a nice unfalsifiable theory.

by a reader on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 19:34 | [reply](#)

Re: No oppression by definition

No, you don't read us correctly. That the intervention of Coalition forces has enhanced political freedom in Iraq is a premise, not the conclusion, of our piece.

by [Editor](#) on Fri, 05/21/2004 - 21:43 | [reply](#)

Well I did miss your point

Admittedly, and you are correct.

I guess I just kept focusing on that hood and thinking, something isn't right here. As in, why would he be announcing he wants to go into court and tell what happened if he is hiding his face? Shame, no, because he reveals his face on other interviews. This is just a visceral reactions, which I admit are faulty, but I can't image

someone who faced that kind of abuse would willingly put a bag over their face. Carry it, maybe. Hide their face in another manner, yes. But put the bag over their head? That's hard for me to imagine.

Maybe I'm barking up the wrong tree.

And your assessment is good.

take care,

be well,
Rachel Ann

by [RachelAnn](#) on Sun, 05/23/2004 - 08:08 | [reply](#)

Where is the freedom?

Something we should be asking ourselves every day. It is a good question. Incongruous or not, I like the question. Premises, conjecture, and discussion.

Freedom is an every day thing until it is not. Freedom is often invisible. Oppression is often invisible too. The ideas of freedom. We have to look closely to see.

by a reader on Mon, 05/24/2004 - 15:25 | [reply](#)

oh no!

What's really scary is the tiny little helicopter the Pentagon sent to pee on his head. I didn't know they had that capability.

by a reader on Sun, 06/20/2004 - 11:18 | [reply](#)

Re: oh no!

No, what's *really* scary is that the helicopter's rotor isn't moving. I suspect it was actually launched at the ex-[presiner](#) from a catapult, like some kind of giant metal cow.

by [Kevin](#) on Sun, 06/20/2004 - 17:50 | [reply](#)