

MEDIA MELEE

Krugman Responds to 9/11 Column Criticism: “the atrocity was abused”

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By Anna Sanders 6:33pm



(Photo: Weasel Zippers)

After [Paul Krugman said](#) the anniversary of [Sept. 11](#) was an “[occasion for shame](#)” yesterday, bloggers and pundits sprang to action, one accusing the *New York Times* columnist of being a “[smug coward](#),” others asking if the “[hack](#)” should be fired.

Even former Defense Secretary [Donald Rumsfeld tweeted](#): “After reading Krugman’s repugnant piece on 9/11, I canceled my subscription to the New York Times this AM.”

Because of the heated response from conservatives (with commenting on the blog disabled no less), Krugman [responded today](#), reiterating his belief that politicians used the tragedy for—what else—political gain:

“It was a time when tough talk was confused with real heroism, when people who made speeches, then feathered their own political or financial nests, were exalted along with – and sometimes above – those who put their lives on the line, both on the evil day and after.”

[Fox News’ Megyn Kelly asked](#) if the *Times* should fire the columnist, but, why would they? Even The New York Times could use traffic a good 9/11 controversy drives.

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