

# Abandonment

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This is an opinion item.

**Author(s)** Rich Lowry

**Source** National Review

**Date** July 10, 2007

**URL** <http://article.nationalreview.com/?q=ZGFkMmY3ODQ5ZjE1YzAxOGY2NmMzMjMDY1YWVkbWV2ODE=>

**Quote**

“ The surge has succeeded in reducing sectarian killings in Baghdad and civilian casualties overall, but at the cost of increased U.S. casualties and without the Iraqi legislative accomplishments that were established as “political benchmarks.” Those benchmarks shouldn’t be fetishized. The reason that they were considered so important is that they were thought necessary to entice Sunnis away from the insurgency. Instead, the Sunnis have swung our way anyway, in reaction to al Qaeda brutality and to our strength.”

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Add or change this opinion item's references

This item argues against the position Coalition troops should pull out on the topic Post-invasion Iraq.

This item argues against the position Iraq Study Group's recommendations should be followed on the topic Post-invasion Iraq.

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**This page was last edited on July 10, 2007, at 19:59.**

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