Illusions of Security in the US and Israel

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By using the "War on Terror" and "security" to justify a broad range of initiatives that compromise civil rights and liberties, the Bush administration is relying on the oldest and least rational argument - fear. The government asserts that it can't guarantee our safety and our survival without tightening security. The promise is held out that with the help of these controls, it can eventually eliminate terrorists.

Ironically, as it wavers between fearmongering and militarism, the United States is now seen by a good part of the world as the greatest terrorist of all. Americans joke about the ways in which Big Brother is watching us... but the opening for these intrusions on our rights was created when the American people, traumatized by the September 11 attacks and their aftermath, were successfully manipulated by the Bush administration. …