

Celsius 7/7  
HOW THE WEST'S POLICY OF APPEASEMENT HAS PROVOKED YET MORE  
FUNDAMENTALIST TERROR - AND WHAT HAS TO BE DONE *NOW*  
by Michael Gove.  
Weindefeld and Nicolson 2006.

This short but powerful book was inspired by Lord Weidenfeld, who told the author, former Times journalist and now a Conservative MP, to write a book that would demolish much of the rubbish that passes for comment on Islam, terrorism, and the West's response.

Celsius 7/7 is Michael Gove's response, and a superb response it is too. The book divides into 11 chapters, analysing the metamorphosis of Arab nationalism into Islamism, drawing clear distinctions between Islam and Islamism and detailing the reasons why the latter is such a potent threat.

Gove also investigates the liberal left's frequently collusive response to acts of Islamist terrorism, and focuses especially on why Israel is the whipping-boy of choice not just in the Middle East but throughout the world. In his chapter *The Condition of Zion* Gove convincingly explains that the reason Israel is hated in the Middle East is not because of its history since 1948, but simply because it exists, and also, a reason paralleled among its leftwing enemies, because Israel represents Western, democratic, pluralist values, and is America's closest ally.

Gove concludes by revealing the extremism and attitudes of leading members of Muslim communal organisations, many labelled as moderates by the media, and suggests that unless society wakes up and then cracks down on the Islamist extremism in its midst, even if this incurs passing unpopularity, it will rue the day it failed to do so.

No one who seeks an informed opinion on these burning issues should fail to read this book.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh