

KARL ROVE

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Letters to the Editor
The New York Times
620 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10018

To Whom It May Concern,

Gail Collins joins the *New York Times'* editorial board, columnists Thomas Friedman and Paul Krugman, as well as TIME's managing editor Richard Stengel and 2008 presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain in wrongly claiming President George W. Bush told America to "go shopping" after 9-11. He did not.

These were the words of TIME's Frank Pellegrini. In a glowing article on Bush's September 20th, 2001 speech, Pellegrini referred to the section of Bush's speech where he asked for "continued participation and confidence in the American economy." It was Pellegrini who approvingly translated this into "And for God's sake keep shopping."

Suggesting Bush simply urged people "to shop" is factually wrong – and may be intellectually dishonest.

Gail Collins' petulance and hostility towards President Bush are well documented. But she should not attribute statements to him that he didn't make just to advance her ideological agenda.

I look forward to her correction.

Sincerely,

Karl Rove