

# Afghanistan War

We got on the wrong side in Afghanistan long ago by supporting the religious extremist mujahedin against a secular government favored by the Soviet Union — all because we had anti-Communism as a mental disease. Allowing girls to go to school and women to go to political meetings were the reasons cited by the mujahedin for overthrowing that government — we armed them, paving the way for the Taliban. By allowing massive child abuse, we created the next generation of vengeance.

**Gloria Steinem**