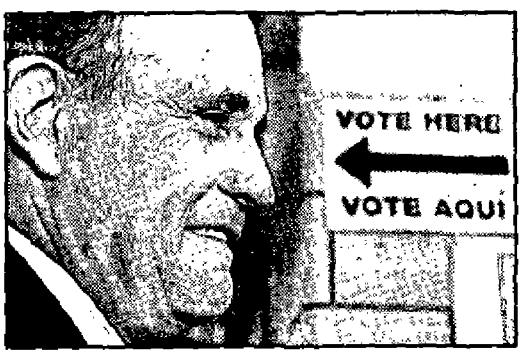
NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

We Don't Want Rudy to Stay

I found Walt Handelsman's Nov. 7 editorial cartoon about Rudy Giuliani offensive.

It showed people clinging onto Giuliani to stay, even though every poll has shown voters thought he should move on and let fresh blood enter City Hall.

The cartoon especially troubled me because some people seem to forget that Giuliani's "lead-



AP Photo

Giuliani on Election Day

ership" irrefutably gave us the greatest death toll in New York City's 300-year history.

New York City has never been in worse shape. If you can blame Dinkins for the crack explosion and subsequent results, then you have to blame Giuliani for the undeterred disaster of Sept. 11 and the subsequent results.

Can you cite a single thing Mayor Giuliani did that another mayor wouldn't have done? (Well, OK: No other mayor would have moved the emergency management bunker into 7 WTC. And another mayor probably wouldn't openly foster hostility toward Palestine. And another mayor would have called some engineers up to find out the stability of the buildings hit by planes before sending 300 firefighters to their deaths.)

Giuliani showed no leadership or courage, and in fact made things worse — for example, costing thousands of businesses above Canal Street millions in lost revenue because he inexplicably froze that entire zone. I lost money because I couldn't go to work at Broadway and Houston, even though there was no legitimate reason to shut down the entire Village.

I know we're all in a state of shock and we need heroes at a time like this, but let's not ignore the irrefutable facts to protect a government that got us into this mess.

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Editor's Note: The writer was Green Party canditate for New York City mayor.

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