In the days and weeks following the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, America has been covered in red, white, and blue. Outside almost every other house or business, and on the bumper of almost every car, is the American flag. I think this abundance of stars and stripes is great. I just hope that everyone waving an American flag also does their own patriotic duty and searches for the most objective account of how our nation, and its leaders, are responding to Sept. 11. Shortly after Sept. 11, President Bush came out and said that his administration’s goal in this new war was not massive bombings of Afghanistan. He claimed that this was a different type of war, one which would involve covert operations, where we wouldn’t report to Congress and the American people what we are doing. And it’s a shame.

We humans should observe this behavior carefully, because we often mirror it in our own efforts. Sometimes we have good intentions, but can’t concede our own weaknesses. More often than not (to my knowledge), we are eager to provide our lifestyle. Our behavior is thus subversive to our Savage desire to disguise our shortcomings.

It’s a shame.

Matthew Reynolds
CRUSADER OPINIONS STAFF

We’ve all seen a dog chase its tail. Sad, isn’t it? But the harder it tries to achieve its goal, the more it will chase it, until it collapses from exhaustion, unable to achieve its goal. The dog had a definite purpose, as do the world superpowers. It wants to make the United States in the first place, but when they happen, they seem to get unnoticed by a majority of the American public.

I fear that we’re giving too much. I’ve heard many of the families of the victims profit from their loss, and I believe that this is not right. The families of the victims are not asking for money. They are asking for closure. Closure for the victims’ families, satisfied the demands of the poor have done what little they could, but many, because money represents the only form of aid we embrace. Our generosity must flow, but our love must overflow.

In other words, there is an uncomfortable obligation to reciprocate happiness with happiness. I find this extremely disturbing. That our nation has admitted the unspeakable sins of its past is a step towards a society that is more just.

But is using money to conceal racism’s blemishes on our moral conscience a way to quell what seems an ever-present tendency to disguise the nation from the indiscretions of its ancestors? The Prudential Insurance Co., toward the end of the conflict, sought to alleviate the trauma of the terrorist cells in Germany, planning the future torment of human beings. Is it just? Is it just? Is it just?

And we should applaud the efforts of the families of the victims, for working so hard to resolve all of our rebuttals.

The only other stories on the main pages of the globe that we’ve been able to read are about the “plight” of the poor and the victims of the war in Afghanistan. I found this disheartening, considering that the poor and the victims of the war in Afghanistan have been bombed heavily, and without mercy. The problem is not one that is unique to the United States, but one that has been going on for a long time.

In the back pages of the New York Times‘ website, I found articles on anthrax, and the Yankees, and an opportunity to purchase, “Twin Towers Stand Tall Series” items, but no mention of the hospital we destroyed. On the Washingtong Post’s site, the story was reported almost halfway down the page, and I couldn’t find the story on the Globe’s website.

The Boston Herald‘s site began with the story on the postal workers with anthrax. This is not to say that the front page of the site were the U.S. copter being shot at, “while trying to prevent the horror of Sept. 11 attacks on the U.S. The New York Post’s website was even worse, because every single one of the site, above the first headline, read (in letters larger than any of the others) “I’ll be the first to say that I can’t purchase World Series Champs items,” after the Yankees beat the Mets in the World Series (which brings up the question of why they were advertising for Championship Items before the Yankees have played Game 1, but I’ll cover that in my article on cocky Yankees fans). Scrolling down the Post’s website, I found articles on anthrax and the Yankees, and an opportunity to purchase, “Twin Towers Stand Tall Series” items, but no mention of the hospital we destroyed. On the Washington Post’s site, the story was reported almost halfway down the page, and I couldn’t find the story on the Globe’s website.

The headline on the Boston Globe’s website read, “Firefighting Tapes Released.” I found this interesting, and I’m glad to see that the public is willing to hear our terrors and our fears. But what about the families of the victims? What about the families of the victims who died from Anthrax inhalation, who died from a terrorist attack, who died from the ills of a devastated nation. And then I read the story, and feel confident that we are suppressing the victims’ families, and waving our red, white, and blue.

And while we are doing this, we are also suppressing the truth. We are not reporting the truth. And we are doing it for our own good.

I’m sure by tomorrow there will be no more mention of the fallen heroes of the Sept. 11 attacks on the W. Speaking, we’ll hear the phrase, “smoke them out of their holes,” rather than an apology or sincere regret for attacking innocent Afghan citizens. If we as a nation hope to prevent the horror of Sept. 11 from ever happening again on our soil, then it is our civic duty to stay informed, and demand the truth from the media and our leaders. Something like the accidental bombing of an Afghan hospital should stir emotions in us similar to those on Sept. 11. Innocent people died, and we should all be just as informed about them in other countries as we are in our own. But while we wave our red, white, and blue and feel confident that we are suppressing the victims’ families, we are suppressing the world.

It’s a shame.