John Brown, Slavery, and the Legacies of Revolutionary Violence in Our Own Time

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Conference Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Harpers Ferry Raid
Gilder Lehrman Center 11th Annual International Conference
Oct 29-31, 2009, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Discussions of the place of violence -- its forms, its causes, its justice or injustice -- in American history often begin with John Brown and his exploits in Kansas and at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, in the 1850s. Brown's image has been appropriated by groups from the left and the right. He is a historical as well as a legendary figure, and often the myth overshadows the reality. This conference will explore the meaning and memory of John Brown as well as the problem of violence in American culture, past and present. For information on the conference visit: http://www.yale.edu/glc/john-brown/index.htm.