

US politics – a deadly game

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Interesting to hear pundits out here in the States discussing the Presidential prospects of Barack Obama. He was being teased on the Leno show about when he was going to show his hand. A couple of minor Democrats I'd never heard of have already put their names in the hat for 2008. Obama would, of course, be the first black President if he gets the Democrat nomination. He's to the Left of Hilary Clinton who has spent the last few years going back on anything remotely liberal or feminist that she may have once espoused. But Obama may not even stand. — As one pundit said, he and his family have to consider the fact that his colour will make him a target – literally – for a nation that is being reminded of political assassination by the new film about Robert Kennedy, called Bobby. Ironic that a country fighting a war on terror considers that one of its own citizens may be too frightened to take office because of what some crazed gunman might do. That's the end of my Californian sojourn – thanks to the University of Southern California for their hospitality.

Tomorrow – it's off to India for the LSE's Asia Forum on the other side of the world.

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