



Media Fairness Initiative

A Look at Bias in the News



Immigration Bias Prevents Americans from Getting Facts 3/17/09



Americans deserve accurate stories about immigration issues, but the national media prevent that from happening.

Too often, the media only feature stories that support their bias, that include more quotes from pro-amnesty sources than pro-enforcement sources, and they prey on emotions while ignoring facts. These articles paint a one-sided sympathetic picture of illegal immigrants, but fail to acknowledge they intentionally broke our laws, burdened taxpayers, and displaced legal workers.

For example, five out of six immigration stories in The New York Times over a recent 2-week period were obviously slanted. The same was true of six out of eight immigration articles in The Washington Post. Americans deserve better and should insist that the media provide all the facts and not just give one side.

Media's Double Standard on Treatment of First Ladies

During an interview with First Lady Michelle Obama on Friday, Robin Roberts, co-host of ABC's "Good Morning America," avoided tough issues and instead asked questions such as "What does [the first lady] do for relaxation in the evening, away from the public?"

In contrast, during an interview with former First Lady Laura Bush in October of last year, Roberts challenged Mrs. Bush on a number of issues.

During another interview with Mrs. Bush in November 2005, "Good Morning America" reporter Jessica Yellin asked, "Have you ever met with a mother whose own loss has made you question, even for a moment, whether the U.S. should be in Iraq?" **Mrs. Obama received no such hard-hitting questioning from "Good Morning America."**

Newsweek Partners with Liberal Air America

From a column in *Human Events* by the Media Research Center's Seton Motley:

"Newsweek announced on Tuesday that they are partnering with liberal radio uber-failure Air America to syndicate their show Newsweek On Air.



"The same week Newsweek announces that they now have new skin in the radio game, they use their cover and the accompanying story to bash Rush Limbaugh, the undisputed king of syndicated talk and someone who is ideologically opposed to the magazine's new syndication partner. Thereby hiding their new business interests -- and their old ideological ones -- behind the battered veneer of their journalistic integrity."