

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

*A Look at Media Bias*

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

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## Pro-Amnesty Billionaire Now Largest NYT Investor

From *Breitbart's Big Journalism...*

“**Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim, the world’s second-wealthiest person, is now reportedly the ‘largest investor’ in the New York Times...** According to a Bloomberg report, Slim exercised ‘options to acquire 15.9 million shares in the newspaper company...’ boosting ‘his stake to 16.8 percent of the company’s Class A shares...’ **Slim, a fierce advocate for amnesty legislation**, has reportedly ‘introduced a campaign to integrate about half a million’ DREAMers into the U.S. workforce.”

## Networks Ignore Release of GITMO Prisoners

From *Fox and Friends...*

“This story regarding these GITMO [Guantanamo Bay] detainees who are being released, essentially to go back into the terror business, this is a big deal so how do you explain this: **CBS didn’t mention it once [the day after the release], NBC didn’t mention it and ABC...invested 35 seconds.**”



## Top Ten Misreported Stories of 2014

From the Congressman Lamar Smith’s floor statement...

“**Mr. Speaker, the media watchdog organization Accuracy in Media recounted the “Top Ten Misreported and Underreported Stories of 2014.” At the top of their list was the media’s failure to adequately report on the Benghazi scandal.**

Very few in the media expressed any interest in covering the attack on our embassy that led to the death of four Americans including a U.S. ambassador. Those that did cover the scandal played it off as being largely created by Republicans. NBC’s Chuck Todd even asked if it was time for Republicans to “drop the Benghazi conspiracy theories.”

Other misreported stories on the list include...the challenges by federal judges to President Obama’s actions. **One of these challenges includes a federal judge in Pennsylvania who ruled in December that President Obama’s executive actions on immigration are unconstitutional.**

The media should give the American people the facts, not tell them what to think.”

## NYT Mixes Opinion with News

From the *New York Times’ Public Editor Margaret Sullivan...*

“[clear opinion or advocacy in the news] seems to happen more and more these days. The use of the first-person is not uncommon, and columnists offer opinion regularly. Even news stories sometimes include quite a bit of ‘voice....’ **But readers ought to know what they’re getting.** They should never be confused...when opinion suddenly appears in what they thought was news. In the disaggregated world of digital reading, where readers encounter stories without the context of the newspaper page, **something as clear as a ‘commentary’ label is not just helpful. It’s necessary.**”

## No One in Mainstream TV Supports Limiting Immigration

From NewsBusters...

“Europe has been the target of numerous acts of Muslim terrorism...Yet there [is not] a voice... saying that right-wing parties might have a point when they advocate limits on immigration...[This led MSNBC’s Joe Scarborough to state], **“These forces [right wing parties calling for immigration restrictions] are always framed [by the mainstream media] in a negative light.** But if you were born in France in 1945...post-war, or across Europe, you have seen radical changes in your country. **Is there any legitimate argument for people saying, hey, let’s slow down on immigration in our country...? I only say this because I have yet to hear one person on American television or European television, mainstream, say these people may have a point.”**”

*Distributed by Congressman Lamar Smith. For regular e-mail updates, please visit <http://lamarsmith.house.gov>*