

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

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National Media Has Lost Americans' Trust

From Congressman Lamar Smith's op-ed published in the *Herald Zeitung*...

"Americans' trust of national 'mainstream' news outlets continues to decrease due to continual bias and one-sided coverage. A Rasmussen poll released at the end of last month found that 61 percent of likely U.S. voters do not trust the political news they receive from the national media...Americans' skepticism about the accuracy and objectiveness of the news they receive will continue until the national media provides fair and honest coverage of the news...

The bias displayed by many outlets starts at the top with the liberal mega-donors who buy these news operations...Liberal attempts to monopolize the national media by buying news outlets and shaming reporters further leads to the public's distrust of the national news media. **These attempts may lead to a liberal press, but not the free and fair press that our founders intended and that Americans deserve."**

Americans Believe Media Intentionally Biased

From Congressman Lamar Smith...

"Americans are increasingly skeptical about the national news they receive. A new study released this month conducted by the First Amendment Center and USA Today found that only 24 percent of Americans believe the media try to report the news without bias. That is a record low since the question was first asked a decade ago. **Seventy percent of respondents believed that news reports are intentionally biased.** This represents a 15 point increase from last year. Millennials are even more suspicious about the news. Only seven percent of Americans 18–29 years old said the media report news objectively. **Media bias is both real and unfortunate. Americans will continue to reject the bias of the liberal national media until the media stops telling them what to think."**

Media Ignores Democrats' Money in Politics

From *Breitbart's Big Journalism*...

"[After the] Supreme Court decided Citizens United in favor of free speech...[the media took] aim primarily at the right-leaning Koch Brothers...Although legions of left-wing corporations...spend billions of dollars pushing a political agenda 24/7, the left-wing media want a monopoly on free speech...[However], the Koch brothers only rank 59th in campaign contributions...Not only that, if you look at the top donors on this list...the Kochs are behind 18 different unions...And guess who benefits from the...outside corporate dollars from these unions? Democrats, of course..."

Media Disconnected on Religious Issues

From *NewsBusters*...

"During [an] interview at the Family Leadership Summit...moderator Frank Luntz asked the reporters in attendance how many of them went to church or synagogue on a weekly basis. After doing a quick hand count of what Luntz estimated to be about 60 or 70 journalists, the pollster observed 'Only nine of them' raised their hands. Luntz, probably nailing a primary reason why people of faith and their issues are treated so badly by the liberal media, then asked...if there was 'a disconnect when [political figures] speak of faith and only nine' of the journalists assigned to cover the event admitted to being regular church attendees."