

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

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Americans' Trust in Media Hits All-Time Low

From *Gallup*...

“Americans’ trust and confidence in the mass media ‘to report the news fully, accurately and fairly’ has dropped to its lowest level in Gallup polling history, with 32% saying they have a great deal or fair amount of trust in the media. This is down eight percentage points from last year. . . . Americans’ trust in the media . . . has consistently been below a majority level since 2007.

Republicans who say they have trust in the media has plummeted to 14% from 32% a year ago. This is easily the lowest confidence among Republicans in 20 years. . . . Democrats’ and independents’ trust in the media has declined only marginally, with 51% of Democrats and 30% of independents expressing trust. . . .

Older Americans are more likely than younger Americans to say they trust the media, but trust has declined among both age groups this year. . . . And 2016 marks the first time that confidence among older Americans has dropped below 40% in polling since 2001.”

800 Illegal Immigrants Wrongly Granted Citizenship

From *Newsbusters* ...

“Following the two weekend terrorist attacks carried out by naturalized US citizens, the Department of Homeland Security’s inspector general announced that 800 individuals slipped through the cracks and were wrongly granted citizenship. ‘In 858 of the cases, fingerprints for the individual, either at DHS or the FBI were not available because the agencies haven’t fully digitized their inventories of older finger prints taken on paper,’ reported Fox News’ Chief Washington Correspondent James Rosen. And yet ABC and NBC failed to report it that evening, while CBS buried it in a . . . report with no context.”

NYT Only Reports on Protests for Liberal Causes

From *NewsBusters*...

“The New York Times doesn’t like to cover conservative protests. Take the annual March for Life each January. This year, their print coverage consisted of a grand total of two paragraphs (23 and 24) at the very end of the paper’s main weather story, which left out the name of the march. That was an improvement from 2015 (a half-sentence in a hostile story) and 2014 (a stand-alone photograph of the event on Page A17 with a two-line caption). . . .

[However,] the Times devoted an entire page to a Native American environmental protest. On the front page, they promoted it: ‘Protest on the Plains: Demonstrations against an oil pipeline in North Dakota are being called the largest, most diverse tribal action in at least a century.’ . . . Video of the protesters doesn’t suggest a crowd anywhere near as massive as the March for Life in Washington.”

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