

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

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Unemployment Numbers Ignore All the Facts

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Many of the mainstream media outlets touted that the economy was “gaining steam,” as the *New York Times* headline displayed, after the announcement of the December jobs report. **The mainstream media excessively praised this report but refused to give all the facts.** Many articles ignored the idea that many people quit searching for work and therefore would no longer be counted as “unemployed.” Also, many reports did not point out that many of the December jobs were seasonal. Employers need temporary workers for the higher demand of the holidays, but these jobs are usually far from being permanent.

The media owes it to the American people to display all the facts when discussing the economy. It should not pick and choose which facts Americans receive.

Univision Wages War On Latino Conservatives

From the *Investor's Business Daily* Editorial page:

“...*Univision* unwittingly revealed it's got a mafia-style hit-equivalent out there waiting for any conservative leader of Hispanic descent who won't tout their open-borders line on immigration. So much for reporting the news....”

Last October, the *Miami Herald* broke news that *Univision* executive Isaac Lee threatened to make public a story about the arrest of Rubio's brother-in-law 24 years ago — that is, unless, in an offer he couldn't refuse, Rubio agreed to go on *Univision's* Jorge Ramos show, presumably to be savaged by the TV host, known as a loud advocate of open borders.

Univision denied the Herald story, though the paper had multiple witnesses — but then spilled the beans to the *New Yorker*, admitting to writer Ken Auletta that it had indeed offered the popular Florida senator “three *Univision* options” to soften or spike their nasty “investigation” if Rubio did the Ramos show.

***Univision* figured it could demolish Rubio politically with the offer, which is why it pulled out all stops and violated all standards of journalistic ethics. But things didn't go as planned: Rubio refused to be blackmailed and told them no.** *Univision* then ran the scurrilous piece attempting to link Rubio to drugs, which was so baseless even the mainstream media wouldn't pick it up.

The *Miami Herald's* Marc Caputo reported a whole string of disgraceful pressure tactics *Univision* pulled to put the heat on Rubio. Those ranged from adding the words #rubio and #drugs to advertise their show on their Twitter feed and create a false link, to sending a huge TV truck to the doorstep of Rubio's sister, to attract embarrassing attention. Caputo reported that the *Univision* shakedown also included trying to get Florida Gov. Rick Scott to call for Rubio's resignation. **Caputo said the ploy appalled *Univision's* reputable journalists, who called him up to describe the egregious violation of ethics.**

What does this say about *Univision* and its line? That there's a creepy network determined to stamp out any dissent in the Hispanic community and force all leaders to toe a party line — or else face media ruin.”

AP Treats 20 People at Zuccotti Park as National News

From the *NewsBusters*...

“National headlines page at the Associated Press's main site this morning **teased a story about how twenty -- wow, a whole twenty** -- Occupy Wall Street protesters spent the night at Zuccotti Park after barricades which had been up for almost two months were removed. Not only that, but the related brief story has an accompanying series of four photos (most stories usually have just one).

There were more than 20 people in thousands of McDonald's locations this morning, and that's not news (as it shouldn't be). **So why is this a national item? Note how the story's writers describe last November's police action as a “raid.” It could easily have been written to say that “Police evicted protesters on November 15.”**

But that would have been fair and balanced. Can't have that.”

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