

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

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ABC/Wash Post Health Care Poll Shows Bias

10/21/09



A poll is only reliable if its questions are unbiased. A new ABC/Washington Post poll finds that most Americans support a public option for health insurance. But the poll question characterizes a public option merely as a way to increase competition. **There is no mention that a public option would increase the cost of health coverage, ration health care, and raise taxes. It's as if the White House wrote the question for ABC and The Washington Post. Maybe they did!**

In June, the same poll asked respondents whether they would still support a public option if it made private health insurers go out of business. **Support dropped to 37 percent.** It's no wonder ABC and the Post omitted the question from its most recent poll.

ABC, The Washington Post and the rest of the Democrat-Media Alliance should be embarrassed to report this biased poll. The media should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

White House Attacks Fox News for Telling Truth

With unemployment at a 26-year high, a record budget deficit, and a looming health care bill that punishes taxpayers and bankrupts the government, what is the White House doing? They are attacking Fox News for telling the truth. **A White House spokesman says that Fox News is "not a news organization."**



We need to fact-check the White House on whatever they say about Fox and any legislation since they are not being straight with the American people. **Separate studies by the Pew Research Center and the Center for Media and Public Affairs found that Fox News' coverage is more balanced than any other network.** The White House has no problem with other national news outlets because they offer biased reports and give the Administration a free pass. **In fact, network news programs have favored proponents of the Administration's health care proposal over critics of the plan by a margin of more than 2-to-1.**

The White House, like the national media, should let the American people make up their own minds, not try to control what they hear.

Veteran Journalist Says Media Are Liberal

Thomas Edsall, a veteran journalist and former *Washington Post* reporter, says the mainstream media are liberal and should not conceal their liberal convictions.

In an article from the *Columbia Journalism Review* titled "Journalism Should Own Its Own Liberalism," Edsall wrote that the New York Times' failure to investigate stories about ACORN and Van Jones "testifies to the failure of the mainstream press to deal with the issue of liberal bias." **Edsall explained that the national media are "composed in large part of 'new' or 'creative' class members of the liberal elite. He continued, "If reporters were the only ones allowed to vote, Walter Mondale, Michael Dukakis, Al Gore, and John Kerry would have won the White House by landslide margins."**

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