

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

## A Look at Media Bias

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

Rep. Jack Kingston (R-GA), Co-Chair

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN), Co-Chair

## Networks Ignore Corruption at Liberal Group

2/15/11



Planned  
Parenthood

All three television networks failed to devote any coverage to videos showing corruption among employees of Planned Parenthood, a liberal group, for an entire week after the controversy broke.

The videos show Planned Parenthood staffers eager to help supposed teenage sex workers get abortions and contraception.

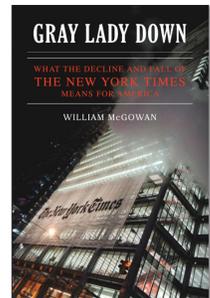
CBS finally covered the controversy a week after the first video was released, but ABC and NBC continued to ignore the story.

## New Book Describes Decline of New York Times

A new book by author William McGowan thoroughly explains the facts and events that have led to the decline of objective reporting at The New York Times.

The book, titled, “Gray Lady Down – What The Decline And Fall Of The New York Times Means For America,” gives specific examples of the Times’ bias. **For example, one section of the book mentions a Media Research Center (MRC) study that found that the Times strongly favored then-Senator Obama over Senator McCain during the 2008 presidential campaign.**

MRC found that positive portrayals of Obama in the Times outnumbered negative ones by a three-to-one margin. The ratio was reversed for the Times’ portrayal of McCain; it was three-to-one negative over positive.



## The Rest of the Worst in Media Bias

- **“Here are some facts. One fact is that the Republican field [of 2012 presidential candidates] is the weakest field that anybody has seen - and Republicans all agree on that - that anybody has seen that in our lifetime.”** – John Heilemann, New York Magazine, appearing on the Chris Matthews Show on Feb. 11.
- **“[Republicans] want to beat Barack Obama, but they don’t have anybody.”** – PBS’ Mark Shields on the PBS NewsHour, Feb. 11.
- Discussing the state of the Republican Party with political analyst John Dickerson on Saturday’s CBS Evening News, anchor Russ Mitchell concluded: **“...it has been a tough week for House Republicans.”** On Friday’s NBC Today, co-host Meredith Vieira made an identical observation, declaring: “It has been a rough, rough week for the Republicans, to say the very least.” (Media Research Center)

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