



# Media Fairness Initiative

## A Look at Bias in the News



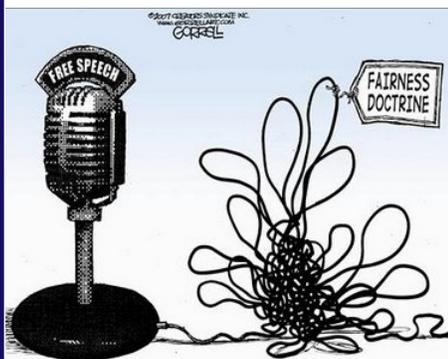
### Where's the 'D'?

2/24/09



- In news stories about the Chandra Levy case and the scandal involving former Congressman Gary Condit, **both CNN and The Washington Post failed to mention that Condit is a Democrat.**
- Former Chicago Democratic Alderman Arenda Troutman was sentenced last week to four years in prison for mail and tax fraud. In stories about her sentencing, **both the Chicago Sun-Times and the Chicago Tribune failed to mention that Troutman is a Democrat.**
- The Associated Press ran a story about five Oregon legislators who introduced a bill that would increase taxes on beer by 1900 percent. **The AP failed to mention that all five legislators are Democrats.**

### Spokesman: President Opposes Fairness Doctrine



President Obama opposes any attempt to reinstate the so-called Fairness Doctrine, a spokesman told Fox News last week. Conservative leaders applauded the President's announcement, but called on him to do more to prevent the reinstatement of the Fairness Doctrine.

Brent Bozell, President of the Media Research Center, said: **"We are glad that President Obama says that he 'does not believe the (so-called) Fairness Doctrine should be reinstated.' But he should state his opposition to the use of any FCC regulation with the intent of censoring talk radio. He should also guarantee a veto of any bill that will silence free speech on the airwaves."**

Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform, said: **"While I'm pleased to hear the President say he opposes revival of the ironically named "fairness doctrine," I'd like to hear him come out with full-throated support for freedom of speech. Government censorship has many forms, and while President Obama now opposes this form, where does he stand on the more ominous issue of censorship by proxy under the friendly sounding 'localism' banner?"**

### ABC Anchor: Presidency Is a 'Step Down' for Obama

In an interview last week, ABC's Nightline co-anchor Terry Moran compared President Obama to President George Washington.

**"I like to say that, in some ways, Barack Obama is the first President since George Washington to be taking a step down into the Oval Office ... I mean, from visionary leader of a giant movement, now he's got an executive position that he has to perform in, in a way."**

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