

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

## *A Look at Media Bias*

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

### **Wash Post Ombudsman Calls Move to Cut the Position “Shortsighted”**

02.26.13

From *Accuracy in Media...*

“Current *Washington Post* ombudsman Patrick Pexton called the newspaper’s potential elimination of his position ‘shortsighted.’ [Pexton stated] **‘But people’s trust in the media is declining. Eliminating the ombudsman seems a shortsighted move.’**”

### **Media Bias Billboards Hit Times Square**

“The Media Research Center rented five large billboards in Times Square as part of their ‘Stop Censoring the News’ campaign to educate the public about how certain media outlets apparently are spinning their coverage or simply censoring news critical of the Obama administration to protect and promote a liberal agenda...**The five billboards [covering 3,800 square feet] will be up for at least several weeks and, during that time, will be viewed by an estimated 1.4 million people each week.**”



### **Media Ignores Rising Gas Prices**

From *Investors Business Daily...*

“**[As of last week] U.S. gasoline prices had increased for 32 straight days. The media, however, aren't interested.** They would be, though, if a Republican were in the White House...the average price of a gallon of regular gasoline was \$3.75 [last week]...A month ago [a] gallon cost \$3.30...It was \$1.83 a gallon the day before Obama was first inaugurated [in 2009]. The media are providing a smattering of coverage of the rising prices...George W. Bush never enjoyed that protection from the media.”

### **Former Obama Aides Land Media Jobs**

From *Washington Secrets...*

“**The mainstream media seems to be giving up its fight with conservatives that it acted as an arm of the Obama campaign in the last presidential election. The new trend: hiring Obama insiders...**[This month], NBC announced the hiring of chief Obama campaign strategist David Axelrod...A week earlier, the *Washington Post* added Obama and Democratic advisor Hilary Rosen... [And] White House spokesman Robert Gibbs landed a gig on MSNBC.”

### **“Denying Media Bias...Like Denying Science”**

Fox News Channel’s *The Five*, co-host **Greg Gutfield** stated **“denying the media bias at this point has to be like denying science...**In order to deny media bias, you got to deny studies of voting practices of journalists, which reveal liberal purity...But I guess if you believe in an objective media, you’ll believe in anything: like a whistle is better than a gun [or] redistribution beats opportunity.”

### **Networks Ignore that Sequester was Obama’s Idea**

From the *Media Research Center...*

“[Last week], the NBC, ABC, and CBS evening newscasts all recited the same White House talking points as anchors and correspondents wrung their hands over the upcoming sequester budget cuts set to take effect on March 1. **All three broadcasts touted President Obama using ‘dire language’ to warn against the cuts...none of them noted that it was the President's idea in the first place.**”