

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

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Despite Media's Spin, Americans Oppose Health Plan 3/16/10



In a recent Washington Post op-ed, here's what two Democratic pollsters had to say about the media's spin on the Administration's health care proposal:

"Nothing has been more disconcerting than to watch Democratic politicians and their media supporters deceive themselves into believing that the public favors the Democrats' current health-care plan."

"... A solid majority of Americans opposes the massive health-reform plan ... Many more Americans believe the legislation will worsen their health care, cost them more personally and add significantly to the national deficit."

"Never in our experience as pollsters can we recall such self-deluding misconstruction of survey data."

Despite the media's spin, the American people are sending a clear message about health care: **Congress should start over and get it right.**

NBC Gives Democrats More Coverage on Health Care

NBC's Today Show yesterday gave little time to the Republican perspective on health care, according to an analysis by the Media Research Center (MRC).

Reporter Savannah Guthrie featured soundbites from **four Democrats in favor of the health care bill, compared to just one Republican quote opposed to the legislation**, according to MRC.



The report quoted White House senior advisor David Axelrod, Democratic Congressman James Clyburn, Democratic Senator Richard Durbin and Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. The lone Republican quoted was Senator Lindsey Graham.

Washington Post Shows Bias on Gay Marriage

It's not hard to see The Washington Post's bias on the issue of gay marriage. According to the Media Research Center, during a recent one-week period, the Post:

- **ran 11 articles related to D.C.'s new law allowing same-sex marriage;**
- **devoted 543 inches of column space to the ruling – equal to nearly four full pages;**
- **printed 14 photos of gay celebrations;**
- **quoted supporters of gay marriage 11 times more often than opponents – 67 to 6;**
- **and repeatedly compared gay marriage to the historic civil rights movement.**

The Washington Post and the rest of the national media should give Americans the facts, not advocate on behalf of their liberal agenda.

*Distributed by Congressman Lamar Smith. For regular e-mail updates, please visit <http://lamarsmith.house.gov>
For more information please contact Dan Rosso at 202-225-4236 or dan.rosso@mail.house.gov*