

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman
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NPR Execs Overwhelmingly Give to Democrats ...

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National Public Radio (NPR) board members, as well as the NPR Foundation's board members, are much more likely to give campaign money to Democrats than Republicans, according to an analysis by U.S. News & World Report:

“Conservatives have long complained that the public broadcaster has a liberal bias, a charge NPR's defenders have denied. **In at least one regard, however, NPR's board and fundraisers have, as a whole, shown a marked lean to the left in recent years: political contributions. A review of campaign finance data found that NPR board members' campaign contributions have sharply favored Democrats. Since 2004, members of the boards of NPR and the NPR Foundation, the public broadcaster's fundraising arm, have contributed nearly \$2.2 million to federal candidates, parties, and PACs, of which \$1.95 million, or 89 percent, has gone to Democratic candidates and liberal-leaning political action committees.**”

... And NPR's Coverage Slants to the Left

NPR's news coverage features far more liberal sources than conservative sources, according to analyses by the Media Research Center:

- **On last Thursday's All Things Considered, NPR's Jim Zarroli vouched for continuing federal funding of public broadcasting by lining up seven sound bites from three supporters of the medium, versus only two from opponents.**
- **NPR's Scott Horsley favored Democrats over Republicans by a five-to-two margin during last Thursday's Morning Edition.**
- **Even when they tackle the question of NPR's liberal bias, NPR can't help themselves. The NPR show On The Media on Saturday aired a segment on the question of bias lasting 18 minutes. Conservatives were represented not by experts, but by two average NPR listeners, who were granted five minutes.**

New York Times Ombudsman Admits Paper's Liberal Bias

In a recent article, New York Times Executive Editor Bill Keller admitted that his newspaper has a liberal bias, at least on cultural issues:

“**[Former Public Editor Daniel] Okrent went on to explain that The Times's outlook, steeped in the mores of a big, rambunctious city, tends to be culturally liberal: open-minded, skeptical of dogma, secular, cosmopolitan ... Okrent rightly scolded us for sometimes seeming to look down our urban noses at the churchgoing, the gun-owning and the unlettered.**”

*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*