

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 Show Bias on Arizona Immigration Law

5/12/10



Television network news stories about Arizona's immigration enforcement law have been overwhelmingly negative, according to a new analysis by the Media Research Center.

From April 23rd to May 3rd, negative news reports on ABC, CBS and NBC outnumbered positive reports by a margin of 12 to 1.

Only 10 percent of network reports acknowledged that a majority of Americans support the Arizona law and that 9 out of 10 say it is important to halt the flow of illegal immigrants.

The networks should give Americans the facts about immigration, not tell them what to think.

Networks Show Double Standard on Supreme Court Nominees

During their reports about President Obama's new Supreme Court nominee, Elena Kagan, ABC and NBC refrained from using any ideological description of Kagan.



In contrast, during their coverage of President Bush's Supreme Court nominees John Roberts and Samuel Alito, the networks often applied ideological labels, using terms like "very conservative," "bedrock conservative," "staunch conservative," and "ultra-conservative."

Did Newsweek Hasten its own Demise?

Newsweek The Washington Post Company is putting *Newsweek* up for sale because the company sees no path to profitability for the money-losing magazine, according to a *Washington Post* report.

In response, *The Weekly Standard* wrote that "not only has Newsweek suffered from its online competition, it seems to have done everything within its power to hasten its own demise."

"During the 2008 presidential election, for example, its fawningly voluminous coverage of Barack Obama ... made it something of a journalistic laughingstock, and certainly affirmed every weary accusation of liberal bias in the mainstream media."

TWS wrote Newsweek's recent overhaul was "designed to create a left-wing journal of opinion ..."