

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

## *A Look at Media Bias*

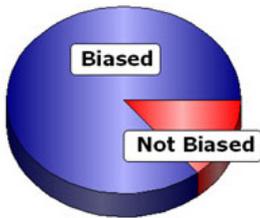
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## Poll Finds Media Have Credibility Void

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The national media don't have a credibility problem; they have a credibility void.

**Five out of six Americans see the national news media as "very or somewhat biased," according to a new poll by Sacred Heart University.** Six out of seven Americans say the media have their own political and public policy positions and attempt to influence opinion and policy.

**Nearly nine out of ten Americans say the media played a strong role in electing Barack Obama as President.** Seven in ten say the national media are intent on promoting the Obama presidency. And a majority say the media are promoting the White House's health care plan without criticism.

The poll found that biased reporting is driving away the media's audience. **Almost half of Americans have stopped watching a news outlet because of media bias.** If the national media want to keep their remaining audience, they need to restore Americans' trust by giving them the facts, not telling them what to think.

## Media Slow to Report ACORN Scandal

In his latest column, New York Times Public Editor Clark Hoyt criticized the Times for its lack of coverage of the ACORN fraud and corruption scandal. **Hoyt wrote that the Times showed "slow reflexes" and risks appearing "clueless" or "partisan" if it does not cover similar stories in the future.**

The Times wasn't alone. Most other national news outlets ignored or downplayed the ACORN scandal. **Days passed before the network news programs covered the story. Only one out of five Sunday news show hosts asked President Obama about ACORN last week.**

The national media should report the facts, not ignore stories that don't fit their liberal agenda.

## Media Ignore Dictators' Praise for President Obama

Some of the world's most brutal dictators and human rights violators have praised President Obama recently, but you might not have heard about it from the national media.

In case you missed it, during his speech to the United Nations last week, Libyan dictator Moammar Gaddafi said, "We are content and happy if Obama can stay forever as the president." Gaddafi also referred to the President as "our son" and "our Obama." **The following morning, ABC devoted an entire story to Gaddafi but failed to mention his remarks about President Obama. NBC and CBS also ignored the story.**

The media also have downplayed praise for President Obama from thugs such as Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez. Americans need the facts from the media, not selective omissions.

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