

# 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

02.04.14

## **‘Stop Being a Cheerleader and be a Journalist’**

From the *Daily Caller*...

“Kansas Republican lawmaker Tim Huelskamp took MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow to task during a post-State of the Union interview on Benghazi secrecy, noting that if Maddow **‘would stop being a cheerleader and be a journalist, you’d recognize we’re not getting those answers...’**”

[Maddow] zeroed in on one tweet, suggesting that President Obama was deliberately ignoring the ongoing Benghazi controversy...[Rep. Huelskamp answered] ‘We need more answers there. We need answers about a lot of things. **This administration promised to be the most transparent in history, Rachel. And I think if you would stop being a cheerleader and be a journalist, you’d recognize we’re not getting those answers.’**”

## **Fox News Still the Most Trusted Name in News**

From *Breitbart*...

“**Fox News once again found itself at the very top of Public Policy Polling’s annual survey of the most trusted news networks in America.** A whopping 35% of those polled trust Fox News more than any other television news outlet...PBS [came in second place] with only 14%.

Bringing up the rear are ABC (11%), CNN (9%), CBS (6%), and in dead last with a three-way tie at 3% are NBC, MSNBC, and Comedy Central...**This is the fifth year PPP has conducted this survey and the fifth year Fox News has come out on top.**”

## **Networks Remain One-Sided with Party IDs**

From *NewsBusters*...

“Within the span of 40 seconds, NBC Nightly News anchor Brian Williams **reported on two politicians caught in scandals, one a Republican the other a Democrat, but he gave the party affiliation of only one of the troubled politicians...**”

Williams reported that ‘Florida Republican Congressman Trey Radel has resigned effective tonight. He pleaded guilty to misdemeanor cocaine possession.’ In the very next news brief Williams announced: ‘A name from New Orleans’s recent past went on trial there today. Ray Nagin, mayor of the city during Katrina, in court on bribery charges.’ **Williams never noted Nagin was a Democrat.**”

We witnessed this same treatment with Gov. Bob McDonnell as the networks rushed to list his party ID but ignored that of scandal plagued democrats such as Elliot Spitzer, Bob Filner, Maureen O’Connor and Jon Corzine.