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August 07, 2009
Categories: Healthcare

Inglis, in the lion's den, dares to rebuke Beck

Rep. Bob Inglis (R-S.C.), appearing Thursday night at a town hall in his deeply conservative upstate district, was greeted with boos and prompted constituents to walk out when he told an angry crowd to turn off Fox News talk show host Glenn Beck.

Now, the YouTube link claims Inglis said, "Turn Glenn Beck off," but that's not easy to pick up over the din.

Price Atkinson, a spokesman for Inglis, said his boss never mentioned the talk show host's name.

"In response to an audience question regarding fear mongering by people like Glenn Beck, [Inglis] said, 'What I would suggest is turn that television off when he comes on,'" Atkinson said.

Whether the congressman said Beck's name or not, that's still a pretty bold rebuke of an increasingly popular conservative figure.

And it says something about the swat Beck and, more broadly, Fox News have in red America that a conservative congressman could be shouted down by his own base for suggesting they tune out a talk show host. It also may say something more broadly about the state of our political system that such citizens would side with a cable news personality over their elected representative.

But seeing this sort of scene illuminates why Republican officials earlier this year were so quick to walk back their criticism of Rush Limbaugh — they'd just as soon avoid the hassle of ticking off constituents who won't tolerate any badmouthing of conservative talkers.

(Yes, South Carolina readers, I know Inglis has moved some to the middle in recent years — but he's hardly a moderate.)

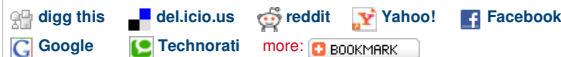
UPDATE: I've got [another video](#) of the same event that clearly has Inglis saying Beck's name in repeating a suggestion that he watch the Fox talk show host. This clip also picks up the congressman accusing Beck of "trading on fear."

Pretty brassy stuff for a South Carolina Republican.

By Jonathan Martin 12:12 PM

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Written by Mike Allen, Carrie Budoff Brown and Chris Frates

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You Dems don't get it. We are going to sweep any RINO or Democrat out of office that soft pedals Socialism to us. This is a dangerous time in politics to insult the American people and call them Nazi's or Brownshirts like the Dem Leaders are doing because 2010 elections are just around the corner.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 12:39 PM



Of Birthers, Senators and Morons

In the news: John Cornyn thinks fact checking is pretext for domestic espionage. Which he's suddenly against. Chuck Grassley uses Ted Kennedy's medical condition as propaganda for his own false and nonsensical claims about "socialized medicine" killing old people -- and this is who Max Baucus is "negotiating" with to bring us his version of health care. Rush Limbaugh thinks Obama is like Hitler. Glenn Beck muses about poisoning Nancy Pelosi.

The birthers are going strong, and the teabaggers are trying to shut down healthcare reform by making town halls on the subject impossible. Dick Morris and John Bolton agree: we should have left those two journalists to rot in North Korea, because Clinton going there to secure their release made the U.S. look weak, and now other countries will steal our lunch money at recess. And Lou Dobbs never met a conspiracy theory he didn't like, as long as it was about brown or black people, but after people got angry that he peddled false nonsense he says he's now reflexively going to oppose Obama on everything.

It almost makes you want to cry. Between Cornyn, Grassley, Limbaugh and Beck, between Dobbs and Morris and Bolton, between birthers and "socialized" medicine but keep-your-hands-off-my-Medicare, the stupid is overwhelming. It's become a tidal wave of stupid. It's a giant Noah's Ark of stupid, in which two examples of every kind of *****ery known to man have been loaded up to be set adrift on a sea of their own drool. It's the "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" gameshow of stupid -- loud, with big flashing lights, and on every goddamn day of the week. It's the result of drinking conservative bong water and eating the paint chips flaking off Bill Buckley's lead-encrusted casket.

I'd be afraid for the future of our country, but I know that if these people ever actually armed themselves and tried to take over they'd all have accidentally shot themselves in the groin within the first ten minutes. Then they'd all limp to D.C. to hold a rally demanding free government healthcare for crotch-related injuries.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 12:51 PM



We are watching the end of fifty years of progressive socialist assaults on our way of life. The democraps have no idea what is about to hit them. This is really only the very early phases of the middle class fighting back against utterly immoral, relativistic, resentful left. The religion of victimization has been exposed. Liberals are eloi.

Posted By: suibne | August 07, 2009 at 12:51 PM



Inglis is a good conservative. Inglis 2.0. He is not a nut, like some of these shouters.

Posted By: Harley | August 07, 2009 at 12:52 PM



"You Dems don't get it. We are going to sweep any RINO or Democrat out of office that soft pedals Socialism to us. This is a dangerous time in politics to insult the American people and call them Nazi's or Brownshirts like the Dem Leaders are doing because 2010 elections are just around the corner." Sore loser.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 12:53 PM



Sad lonely old people who identify so strongly with a TV Character. They need a hug or a visit from the grandkids. I really pity these folks.

Posted By: David | August 07, 2009 at 12:53 PM



people would be better served turning off the muckrakers like mathews, olberman, and the rest of msnbc. mathews is constantly pushing racism. this buffon should be fired today!!!!

Posted By: desertdude | August 07, 2009 at 12:54 PM



This helps emphasize the extent to which the GOP base has become the fringe. It is why the GOP has become a regional party. Beck is repugnant to most people in America yet Republican politicians have to feed this beast or else get the wrath of

politcobensmith's



National Republican Trust PAC returns



Corzine goes after Christie directly on



"Nothing happens in August"



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their nuts. The echo-chamber RW bubble of Fox/Rush/RW Internet makes the Teabaggers think they are a much larger group than they really are. Can anyone say "Permanent Minority Status"? There are people with real questions they need answered but they can't be heard over the crazy mob.

Posted By: Kristi | August 07, 2009 at 12:55 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

The parties are the problem ---- both of them. Republicans and Democrats share responsibility for years of budget deficits and good old boy politics as usual.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 12:55 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

We are watching the end of fifty years of progressive socialist assaults on our way of life. The democraps have no idea what is about to hit them. This is really only the very early phases of the middle class fighting back against utterly immoral, relativistic, resentful left. The religion of victimization has been exposed. Liberals are eloi.

Posted By: suibne | August 07, 2009 at 12:58 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Angry bitter old white people attack!! The country has passed them by and they just have no frigging clue..

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 12:59 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

You Dems don't get it. We are going to sweep any RINO or Democrat out of office that soft pedals Socialism to us. This is a dangerous time in politics to insult the American people and call them Nazi's or Brownshirts like the Dem Leaders are doing because 2010 elections are just around the corner. Oh really? Who exactly is "we"? the 25% of the electorate who still call themselves Republicans? You must be joking. BTW. Buy a calendar, the 2010 elections are in 15 months, hardly "around the corner". By that time, the economy will be rebounding, you dimwits will still be screaming and no one will be listening. How about that DROP in unemployment today? Must make you folks insane. YOU'RE JUST PATHETIC.

Posted By: mike the enforcer | August 07, 2009 at 01:00 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

No you don't get it. Americans want results. Regardless of how you feel about the public option this nation has a healthcare crisis. Screaming nuts have no plan for fixing this nation and nether does the party.

Posted By: Kenneth Rios | August 07, 2009 at 01:01 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Inglis is a conservative. He is not a RINO. It looks like the people who voted for McCain only needed a little brazing to get all fired up and try to stop everything. Getting *****ed off because your Rep. said to turn Glen Beck off is anything but legitimate concern about our economy or health care reform. Seriously, I though GOP leadership was bad, but I guess it is the grass roots coming out, and the grass roots on the right are CRAZY!

Posted By: Seth | August 07, 2009 at 01:01 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

This is because the right in this country is a deranged, psychotic cult full retarded idiots. Like Harry Reid said, the Republican party is run by a talk show host (or rather to be more precise, a cabal of talk show hosts). That tells you all you need to know about these idiots. I mean, it's just madness.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:02 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

the GOP runaway train has taken off and its being propelled by a majority of core zealot racist followers....History will tell the final story but it ain't look'n pretty at this point.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:02 PM [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Kristi, You state that the GOP is a Regional Party. ALL Politics is LOCAL. People vote for who represents THEIR district the best be it Dem or Repub. The ONLY National election is for Pres. Region has nothing to so with it.

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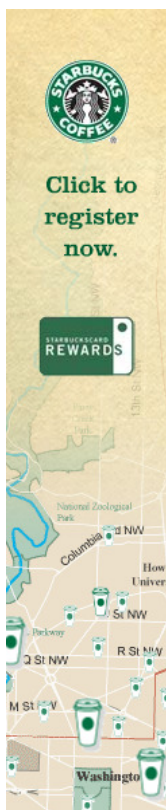
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Posted By: Morphy699 | August 07, 2009 at 01:03 PM

REPORT ABUSE

i agree you guys need to turn off Beckand his ilk. I used to listen to him, till he joined Fox nows is telling lies, scaring the ignorant among us. THIS sounds like the NAZI line that depicted the Jews as the problem. The problem is the undercurrent of hatred in this country that is trying to rear it's ugly head. there is no reasoning with these rabble-rouers at the healthcare forums they shout down legislators who are INVOLVED with crafting the bill. They listen to the radio inciters who lift a sentence here and there and make it seem the truth. What a shame.

Posted By: dee | August 07, 2009 at 01:03 PM

REPORT ABUSE

Goodbye Inglis. You are politically speaking "dead". Another RINO on our list which we need to get rid off.

Posted By: Frederik | August 07, 2009 at 01:03 PM

REPORT ABUSE

Looks like the far right is starting to eat its own. The first commenter demonstrates how extreme the right has become. They call Obama and anyone else who opposes them, even good honorable conservatives, Nazis. In fact, their actions in disrupting town hall meetings, threatening members of Congress, bullying, fomenting violence, and demonizing anyone who opposes any of their radical ideas, are exactly the tactics used by the German Nazis in the early 1930's. It's time for the responsible Republican leaders like Rep. Inglis to stand up to these anti-democratic forces in the Republican Party. Maybe then we can have a civil and productive debate about what's best for the country. Right now the extreme right is making that impossible.

Posted By: Ron42nm | August 07, 2009 at 01:04 PM

REPORT ABUSE

The Republican party unites in congress when it comes to legislation. But they don't seem to unite in support of the individual congressman. Their supporters are followers for the most part. The adults in the party should want to control the message. When you let talk shows do it, you are in for serious hurt. Imagine if the entire Republican party all over the country in every region set a certain standard. Imagine if every single one of them united against certain things that were destroying the party. The fact is not every region is ultra-conservative as say Idaho. The townhalls make the Republican party look bad. Imagine if they did ask tough, hard hitting questions of all the congressmen. Instead, right now, they are viewed as thugs. Townhalls are an American tradition dating back to the 1600s. We have seen heated question sessions in townhalls. However, these latest incidents give democracy and our country a black eye.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:05 PM

REPORT ABUSE

*** 1.Beck has called our sitting president a racist. *** 2.He has joked about poisoning the speaker of the house Nancy Pelosi. *** 3. He was the incitement force behind the looney PA mother of 3 just arrested with weapons casing out a US military base *** 4. Beck's 912 group was cited by several FL news reports for causing the caustic situation at the FL townhall meeting which led to violence. *** 5.Pittsburgh Cop Killer Richard Poplawski was a Beck FOX fan.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:05 PM

REPORT ABUSE

Republicans Propagating Falsehoods in Attacks on Health-Care Reform

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/08/06/AR2009080603854_pf.html

As a columnist who regularly dishes out sharp criticism, I try not to question the motives of people with whom I don't agree. Today, I'm going to step over that line. The recent attacks by Republican leaders and their ideological fellow-travelers on the effort to reform the health-care system have been so misleading, so disingenuous, that they could only spring from a cynical effort to gain partisan political advantage. By poisoning the political well, they've given up any pretense of being the loyal opposition. They've become political terrorists, willing to say or do anything to prevent the country from reaching a consensus on one of its most serious domestic problems. There are lots of valid criticisms that can be made against the health reform plans moving through Congress -- I've made a few myself. But there is no credible way to look at what has been proposed by the president or any congressional committee and conclude that these will result in a government takeover of the health-care system. That is a flat-out lie whose only purpose is to scare the public and stop political conversation.

Under any plan likely to emerge from Congress, the vast majority of Americans who are not old or poor will continue to buy health insurance from private companies, continue to get their health care from doctors in private practice and continue to be treated at privately owned hospitals. The centerpiece of all the plans is a new health insurance exchange set up by the government where individuals, small businesses and eventually larger businesses will be able to purchase insurance from private insurers at lower rates than are now generally available under rules that require insurers to offer coverage to anyone

regardless of health condition. Low-income workers buying insurance through the exchange -- along with their employers -- would be eligible for government subsidies. While the government will take a more active role in regulating the insurance market and increase its spending for health care, that hardly amounts to the kind of government-run system that critics conjure up when they trot out that oh-so-clever line about the Department of Motor Vehicles being in charge of your colonoscopy.

p1

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:06 PM

 REPORT ABUSE

You know what's crazy? Saw Beck last night mocking Pelosi hanging out with her rich friends...but Beck lives in a \$4.2 million house and is going to earn \$18 million this year...also seemed odd for a recovering alcoholic to pretend to be drinking wine...and then he's joking about murdering a United States government official and I'm like, Dude. You are crazy as a coconut. So anyway now I understand why the nutters love him. Totally get it. Cos if you're going to take advice on affording health care in America, best get it from a guy living in a \$4.2 million Connecticut estate.

Posted By: ML | August 07, 2009 at 01:07 PM

 REPORT ABUSE

It's only a matter of a short time (weeks, probably) before the conservative wingnuts start calling for open violence against Democratic elected officials.

Posted By: billp | August 07, 2009 at 01:07 PM

 REPORT ABUSE

p2

There is still a vigorous debate as to whether one of the insurance options offered through those exchanges would be a government-run insurance company of some sort. There are now less-than-even odds that such a public option will survive in the Senate, while even House leaders have agreed that the public plan won't be able to piggy-back on Medicare. So the probability that a public-run insurance plan is about to drive every private insurer out of business -- the Republican nightmare scenario -- is approximately zero.

By now, you've probably also heard that health reform will cost taxpayers at least a trillion dollars. Another lie.

First of all, that's not a trillion every year, as most people assume -- it's a trillion over 10 years, which is the silly way that people in Washington talk about federal budgets. On an annual basis, that translates to about \$140 billion, when things are up and running.

Even that, however, grossly overstates the net cost to the government of providing universal coverage. Other parts of the reform plan would result in offsetting savings for Medicare: reductions in unnecessary subsidies to private insurers, in annual increases in payments rates for doctors and in payments to hospitals for providing free care to the uninsured. The net increase in government spending for health care would likely be about \$100 billion a year, a one-time increase equal to less than 1 percent of a national income that grows at an average rate of 2.5 percent every year. The Republican lies about the economics of health reform are also heavily laced with hypocrisy.

While holding themselves out as paragons of fiscal rectitude, Republicans grandstand against just about every idea to reduce the amount of health care people consume or the prices paid to health-care providers -- the only two ways I can think of to credibly bring health spending under control.

When Democrats, for example, propose to fund research to give doctors, patients and health plans better information on what works and what doesn't, Republicans sense a sinister plot to have the government decide what treatments you will get. By the same wacko-logic, a proposal that Medicare pay for counseling on end-of-life care is transformed into a secret plan for mass euthanasia of the elderly.

Government negotiation on drug prices? The end of medical innovation as we know it, according to the GOP's Dr. No. Reduce Medicare payments to overpriced specialists and inefficient hospitals? The first step on the slippery slope toward rationing.

Can there be anyone more two-faced than the Republican leaders who in one breath rail against the evils of government-run health care and in another propose a government-subsidized high-risk pool for people with chronic illness, government-subsidized community health centers for the uninsured, and opening up Medicare to people at age 55?

Health reform is a test of whether this country can function once again as a civil society -- whether we can trust ourselves to embrace the big, important changes that require everyone to give up something in order to make everyone better off.

Republican leaders are eager to see us fail that test. We need to show them that no matter how many lies they tell or how many scare tactics they concoct, Americans will come together and get this done.

If health reform is to be anyone's Waterloo, let it be theirs.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:07 PM

 REPORT ABUSE

Beck is "an increasingly popular conservative figure" among that core group of rightwing loonies who are in the process of destroying the GOP with their relentless insanity. Inglis is just showing pragmatic good sense here.

Posted By: Lemmy | August 07, 2009 at 01:09 PM

 REPORT ABUSE

No politician is safe, if they fear us, they may just something done. I say VOTE THEM ALL OUT!

Posted By: America | August 07, 2009 at 01:09 PM

 [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Fred.. please keep cutting RINO's... eventually you'll have no one left! Thanks for your work in helping secure the Democratic majority.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:10 PM

 [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Great--the GOP is now being led by a self-described rodeo clown, who also acknowledges that he lies and is under no obligation to tell the truth because he's just a commentator, (he quote: "commentates"--his word--and it really is HIS word, lol--those no such word in other words, for you idiot repugs who I know didn't get that because you had no idea that it's not a real word because that would require not being hostile and angry towards facts and books).

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:12 PM

 [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Beck and his fellow lapel pin patriots and REAL 'MERICANS seem to me to be congealing the conservative audience into a mass that shrinks daily. More power to him!

Posted By: surfcaster | August 07, 2009 at 01:13 PM

 [REPORT ABUSE](#)

Has anybody watched clips of these meetings? These people are crazy! Almost incoherent with anger and tears. Their irrational fear is pathetic and ability of FOX to manipulate them is frightening. If these idiots would just do 10 minutes of research on an unbiased debunking site, they could answer all their own questions but I seriously doubt they would get the same emotional high from truth that they do from hate.

Posted By: Shake It Up | August 07, 2009 at 01:13 PM

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Sure are a lot of knuckledragging GOP douchbags posting here. I sure hope you all gave the government your name, address, and SS number so you can be removed medacare. Until then, you GOP whores have fun. I wish you all the worst.

Posted By: | August 07, 2009 at 01:19 PM

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