

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

The Media Double Standard: Occupy Wall Street vs. the Tea Party

From *Townhall*...

12.13.2011

“Obamacare critics flooding town halls to make their dissent known had been called ‘**extremist mobs**’ by the Democratic National Committee, pawns of the insurance industry by Senator Dick Durbin, ‘**un-American**’ by Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer, ‘**brownshirts**’ by Representative Brian Baird of Washington, ‘**manufactured**’ and ‘**Astroturf**’ by White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, ‘**evilmongers**’ by Senator Harry Reid, accused of ‘**fear-mongering**’ by the president, and been deemed ‘**political terrorists**’ by Representative Baron Hill of Indiana.

Fast forward to the Occupy Wall Street crowd, whose first acts were to make a ‘Hoarders’ episode of a private park in NYC and block the Brooklyn Bridge during rush-hour traffic.....there have been more than a handful of sexual harassment, assault and even rape allegations at Occupy camps...”

Jose Antonio Vargas: Being An Illegal Alien Made Me A Better Reporter

From *Big Journalism*...

“Jose Antonio Vargas is the perfect example of media bias. **He presents himself as both an activist for illegal immigrants and a “journalist.” He’s uniquely suited to this claim in today’s PC world, too, because he is himself an “undocumented American,” as he styles it.** And in a new interview he also claims that being an illegal alien made him a better journalist.

Vargas has blurred the line between journalist and activist since it became public knowledge that he has been in the United States illegally since he was a child. After his coming out, Vargas launched himself into advocacy for illegals. **Only in the Old Media establishment can someone advocate for a political viewpoint yet still be considered a just-the-facts journalist. Vargas isn’t the only one,** of course: Remember such “journalists” as Sanjay Gupta, Chris Matthews, Jay Carney, or Linda Douglas? Well, if you are a left-wing activist it works, anyway.”

Chelsea Clinton: Journalist

From the *NewsBusters*...

“Only in a liberal cocoon of a publication would come the headline, “Chelsea Clinton, Living Up to the Family Name.” But there it was in The New York Times. That writer sounds like someone who never read The Starr Report, or anything else critical of the way the Clintons managed the White House or Little Rock.

Amy Chozick’s article has no Chelsea (or Clinton) critics of any kind, of course, and ends with the usual leg-thrill about Chelsea running for office. But the Times has added details about how **NBC obsequiously granted Chelsea an audience and signed her on without apparently having any qualms about her pledge to raise money for the Obama re-election campaign. NBC signed her to a ‘three month trial contract’?**

As President Obama’s re-election campaign heats up, Ms. Clinton will most likely need to step back from news gathering to help raise money. An adviser said she would “100 percent” help him with his campaign. Mr. Capus said NBC News would discuss in advance any of Ms. Clinton’s political activity, as it does with all of its contributors. Ms. Clinton has a three-month trial contract with NBC, after which both parties will decide whether to continue.

Apparently, Katie Couric’s agent shopped Chelsea to several networks before NBC landed her. Chelsea, we’re told, got the speaking bug on the campaign trail and wanted to be a TV news personality, and voila, NBC is fawning all over her as the world’s most impressive young woman (a budding Tim Russert)...”

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