



# The Watchdog

MRC, THE ONLY FORCE FIGHTING LEFT-WING MEDIA BIAS 24/7

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### You Helped Us Uncover the Most Powerful Bias Engine in America

Thanks to your support, the Media Research Center recently accomplished something extraordinary — and we did it at lightning speed.

In just 90 days, MRC took an issue Silicon Valley and Democrat power brokers didn't want exposed — the left-wing manipulation baked into the Big Four News Apps that millions rely on every day — and forced it into the national spotlight. These apps are preloaded on nearly every smartphone, browser, and laptop in America. They're inescapable, and they quietly shape what millions of people see as "news" every single day. Yet until MRC built our proprietary Digital News Tracker, no one had ever documented how these apps curate information or how aggressively they elevate the left while suppressing conservative media.

Our January Apple News study — 620 highlighted stories, zero from conservative outlets — hit a nerve inside the very media circles that depend on these apps to prop up their failing brands. CBS News, in its own coverage of the FTC's warning to Apple, quoted our findings directly, noting that our analysis showed Apple News "consistently boosted left-leaning sources, while right-leaning outlets didn't appear in users' feeds." *The Washington Post* quoted me on the issue: "Platforms that function as primary gateways to news for millions of Americans should not quietly tilt the playing field while presenting themselves as broad representative aggregators." CNN's Brian Stelter rushed to defend the status quo, claiming conservative outlets "rarely break big stories." Nonsense — and the data proves otherwise.

The momentum only grew. President Trump posted our report on Truth Social, spotlighting Apple's blackout of conservative media for millions to see. Elon Musk reacted with a single interjection — "Wow" — boosting our research across the world's largest real-time news platform. Fox News, Fox Business, Newsmax, Scott Jennings, Dr. Phil, the *New York Post*, Sean Hannity, Karoline Leavitt, Miranda

Devine, Sen. Tom Cotton, and major radio hosts all pushed our findings to the forefront of the public debate.

And then came the breakthrough.

Federal Trade Commission Chairman Andrew Ferguson sent a formal letter to Apple CEO Tim Cook, citing our research and warning that Apple News may be violating federal consumer-protection rules. He footnoted our November and January studies directly — including the *New York Post's* coverage of our 620-0 analysis. FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr backed him up immediately: "Apple has no right to suppress conservative viewpoints in violation of the FTC Act." This is exactly how change begins.

MRC has done this before. We introduced the concept of media bias to the American public in 1987. We exposed Big Tech censorship in 2017. In 2025, we became the first organization in the world to track editorial control within the Big Four News Apps: Apple News, Google News, Yahoo News, and MSN. These apps are the new gatekeepers. They prop up collapsing legacy outlets like CNN, *The New York Times*, and the networks by placing their stories front and center — nearly 100% of the time — while conservative media is buried or erased.

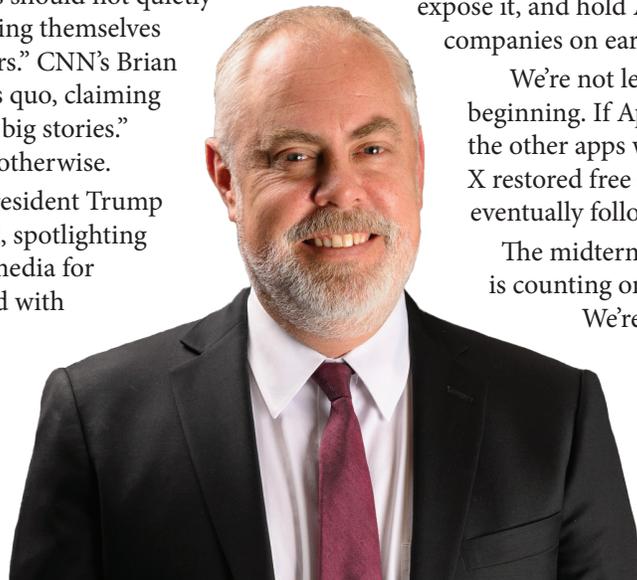
Your support enabled MRC to uncover this system, expose it, and hold Apple, one of the most powerful companies on earth, accountable.

We're not letting up. Apple News is only the beginning. If Apple is convinced to correct course, the other apps will fall in line — just as we saw when X restored free speech, and the rest of Big Tech eventually followed.

The midterms are approaching fast, and the left is counting on these apps to tilt the playing field.

We're counting on the truth.

Thank you for standing with us and making this fight possible.



David Bozell,  
MRC President

# Leftist Media Squeeze Out All News on Lemon's Grand Jury Indictment

MRC exposed a blatant media protection racket for Don Lemon following his Jan. 29 federal grand jury indictment. A Minnesota grand jury — not the Trump administration, as the media would imply — found probable cause to charge the former CNN anchor with conspiracy and interfering with religious freedom over his alleged role in a disruptive anti-ICE protest at Cities Church in St. Paul.

Network Blackout: ABC, CBS, and NBC provided over 14 minutes of coverage across seven reports from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3, but did not devote a single second to the grand jury indictment. They framed Lemon as a victim of authoritarian overreach, calling the process "totalitarian nonsense," "dictator stuff," or comparing it to Russia, China, and Nazi Germany.

News Apps Erasure: The Big Four News Apps (Apple News, Google News, MSN, Yahoo News), preloaded on phones and browsers everywhere, promoted just eight stories out of 160 top stories on Lemon from Jan. 29 to Feb. 6. All came from left-leaning outlets, framed Lemon's situation as an arrest without mentioning a grand jury of the citizens of Minnesota also found probable cause, and depicted him as a crusading journalist "documenting events" and vowing not to be "silenced."



MRC conducted two studies on Don Lemon's arrest and discovered neither the broadcast networks nor the news apps mentioned that Lemon had been indicted by a grand jury.



The leftist media that couldn't wait to report news of former CNN host Don Lemon's arrest quickly buried the story when Lemon was indicted by a grand jury.



Be sure to follow MRC Video's Lead Content Creator, Brittany Hughes, on Instagram, Facebook, and X — @RealBrittHughes

## Elitist Media Lie to the American People Eight Recent Examples of What They Said About ICE

For years, the elitist press have pushed a cartoonish narrative of ICE as a rogue agency hunting innocents. Brittany Hughes laid out eight cases where viral claims — eagerly repeated by the media — collapsed under basic scrutiny.

Whether it's a crying child, a daycare worker, or a supposed "teen employee," the pattern is the same: viral video, breathless headlines, and zero interest in the truth. In case after case, the media framed ICE as brutal — only for the full story to reveal violent offenders, human smugglers, fugitives, or individuals resisting lawful arrest.

One "seizing father" who was faking the seizure; a "U.S. citizen nurse" who refused to show ID; a kidnapped 15-year-old who was actually a grown man feeling officers; a Tennessee mother "separated from her newborn" who had been arrested on drug and firearms charges; and parents who claimed their infant was tear-gassed only to find out the father was resisting arrest and the mother invented the whole story.

The most egregious example may be the Minnesota toddler whose photo became a national symbol of "Trump-era cruelty." Leftist outlets ignored that his father was an illegal alien who fled ICE and abandoned his son in the snow — and that the child's mother refused custody.

The media's selective outrage is unmistakable. They elevate any narrative that paints ICE, and by extension the Trump administration, as villains while ignoring victims of illegal alien crime.

# MRC IS EVERYWHERE



On OAN, MRC Associate Editor Nick Fondacaro discussed the MRC's latest research on how the media are covering ICE in Minnesota. It's a clear case of bias by omission: Violence against federal officers doesn't fit the leftist media's narrative, so they simply ignore it.



MRC Video's Brittany Hughes joined Newsmax2 to expose the leftist media and Sen. Chuck Schumer's stunning hypocrisy over President Trump's capture of Maduro.



On WABC's *The Joe Concha Show*, MRC President David Bozell discussed systemic bias in the major news apps and MRC's Apple News study.



On Newsmax's *Frontline*, NewsBusters Senior Analyst Bill D'Agostino discussed leftist media's blaming ICE for a deadly car crash in Georgia when in fact she was hit by an illegal alien who ran a red light while driving without a license.



On *The Scott Jennings Show*, MRC President David Bozell said the Apple News App "has become a way for these failing legacy news media outlets to hide in plain sight and still have influence over the narrative."

MRC Free Speech America VP Dan Schneider appeared in studio on *Fox & Friends First* to discuss two landmark trials against Meta and YouTube, he says, "could reshape how everyone interacts with social media."



NewsBusters Executive Editor Tim Graham appeared on Newsmax's *John Bachman Now* to discuss the leftist media's attempts to downplay or discredit footage of voter fraud by calling it "Slopulism."



NewsBusters Managing Editor Curtis Houck appeared on *Stinchfield Tonight*, to discuss media coverage of Savannah Guthrie's mother, the massive amount of voter fraud in Georgia, and the Epstein files.



MRC Video's Justine Brooke Murray joined FBN's *The Bottom Line* to explain the FCC's new enforcement of the equal-time rule and to call out Stephen Colbert for flaunting it while promoting his preferred Texas Senate candidate.



# CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## HISTORIC SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL EXCLUSIVE OFFERS!

# FIRST TIME EVER MRC SPECIAL OFFER!



Graded by NGC  
Numismatic Guaranty Corporation  
A Leading Grading Service

### 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dual Date 1776~2026-W SILVER EAGLE

1oz Fine Silver Proof Coin with Liberty Bell 250 Privy  
Mirrored Surfaces with Frosted Devices

### NGC PF 69 Ultra Cameo

President Trump's New U.S. Mint Director Paul Hollis Authorized Facsimile Signature Label

as low as **ONLY \$125** check/wire price per coin • limit 2

### NGC PF 70 Ultra Cameo (Perfect)

President Trump's New U.S. Mint Director Paul Hollis Authentic Hand-Signed Label

**Call for Special Pricing!**

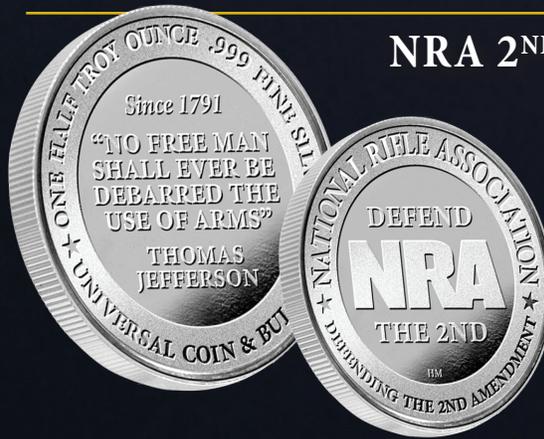
### 1776~2026 AMERICA 250 SILVER ROUND

AS LOW AS ONLY  
**CURRENT SPOT PRICE**

AT TIME OF TRANSACTION

check/wire price per round | limit 2

- IRA Approved
- 1oz .999 Fine Silver
- Brilliant Uncirculated



### NRA 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT SILVER ROUND

AS LOW AS ONLY  
**1/2 CURRENT SPOT PRICE**

AT TIME OF TRANSACTION

check/wire price per round | limit 2

- IRA Approved
- 1/2oz .999 Fine Silver
- Brilliant Uncirculated

**Silver was up over 145% in 2025!**

Many experts anticipate silver going even higher in 2026.

**CALL TODAY!**

The Official Bullion & Rare Coin Partner of Media Research Center



**FREE SHIPPING - PHONE ORDERS ONLY!**

**800.UCB.GOLD** (800.822.4653)

UniversalCoin.com

Vault Code: **UMRCGCS0426**

Offer Expires: **04/18/26**



\*SPOT PRICE – the daily market price of precious metals determined solely by us at time of transaction. BU coins typically come from the Mint with marks. No refunds only replacements on bullion product orders. See disclosures on our website. Images not to scale.

**NO DEALERS PLEASE, AVAILABILITY, PRICE AND PREMIUMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SILVER BASIS: \$76.68 - based on Feb. 16, 2026.**

NATIONAL AWARD-WINNING  
**GOLD GUIDE**  
**FREE**

40 PAGES

**FEATURING KEVIN O'LEARY**

SCAN QR | NO PURCHASE NECESSARY | \$10 VALUE



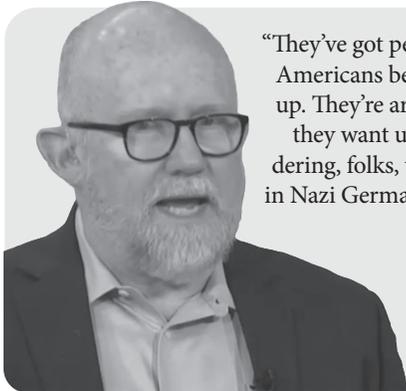
# (Not-So) Notable Quotables

The monthly round-up of the worst, cringiest, most absurd, outrageously woke, and often unintentionally humorous quotes from leftist media.

Curated by **Geoff Dickens**  
MRC Director of News Analysis



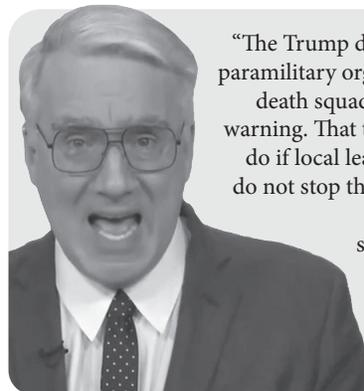
## This Guy Should Be Arrested for Incitement



“They’ve got people in the street shooting Americans because they want us to shut up. They’re arresting journalists because they want us to shut up. If you’re wondering, folks, what you would have done in Nazi Germany in 1936, this is the day.”

**RICK WILSON**  
The Lincoln Project’s  
co-founder guest-hosting  
*The Don Lemon*  
Show podcast

## Can Somebody Get Olbermann His Straitjacket

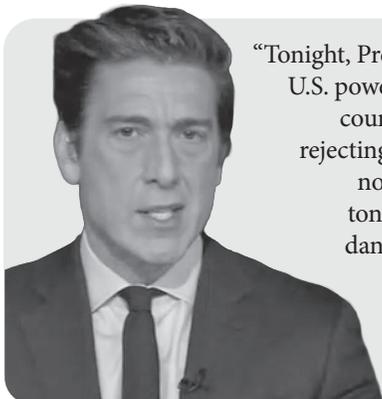


“The Trump dictatorship and its terrorists, the paramilitary organization, the ‘Proud ICE Boys’ death squad, they murdered Alex Pretti as a warning. That this is what they will continue to do if local leaders, like Minnesota’s governor, do not stop thwarting the Trump dictatorship.

Support Trump, or we will keep shooting your residents. Comply, or your people will die.”

**KEITH OLBERMANN**  
on his *Countdown* podcast

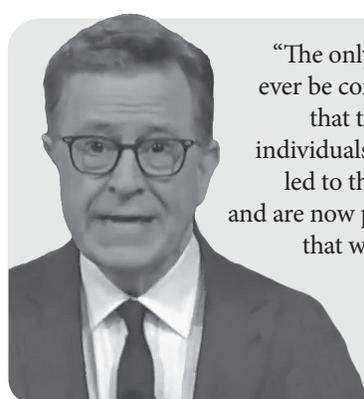
## ‘Climate Change’ Has Become the Left’s Religion



“Tonight, President Trump has repealed U.S. power to regulate climate in this country. The president officially rejecting the science. And what this now clears the way for. Critics tonight arguing this is not only dangerous for the environment but for your health.”

**DAVID MUIR**  
Anchor on  
*ABC’s World News Tonight*

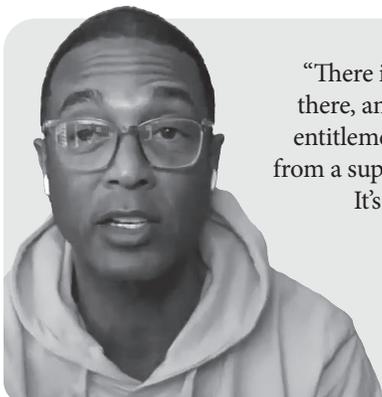
## Keep Telling Yourself, ‘He’s Gone in May ...’



“The only way they [ICE agents] could ever be considered in any way victims is that they are, at best, weak-minded individuals, full of anger, who have been led to the darkness by Donald Trump and are now participating in an evil system that will stick to them like hot black tar for the rest of their lives.”

**STEPHEN COLBERT**  
on CBS’s *The Late Show*

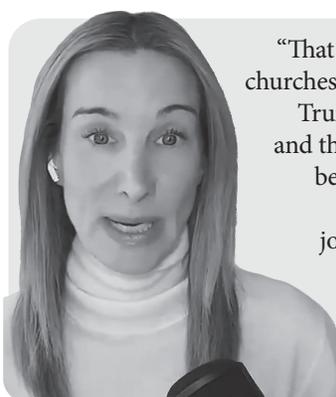
## Lemon is Sour Grapes



“There is a certain degree of racism there, and there’s a certain degree of entitlement. That entitlement comes from a supremacy, a white supremacy. It’s religious freedom, but only if you’re a Christian and only if you’re a white male.”

**DON LEMON**  
Former CNN anchor on  
the *I’ve Had It* podcast

## White Leftists Hate White People



“That is one of those white evangelical churches that turn out to vote for Donald Trump. These are white nationalists, and the DOJ got their panties in a wad because these protesters addressed their hypocrisy. You, a gay black journalist, are prime bait for them to drum up these charges.”

**JENNIFER WELCH**  
Host of the *I’ve Had It* podcast  
speaking to Don Lemon

# 'Explosive New Study'

## MRC Exposes Apple News's Blackout of Conservative Media

A special report by MRC Free Speech America revealed a stunning milestone inside Apple News: The platform went 100 straight days without featuring a single right-leaning article in its morning news lineup. During that same period, Apple elevated 1,379 stories from left-leaning and center-left outlets, exposing a dramatic and systematic imbalance in its curated feed.

**"Explosive new study finds Apple's popular news app is aggressively promoting articles from left-leaning news outlets ... and shutting out conservative news sites."**

**TODD PIRO • Fox & Friends**

for a major *New York Post* report, which President Donald Trump shared and helped propel the issue into the national spotlight.

The regulatory response followed quickly. Federal Trade Commission Chairman Andrew Ferguson sent a formal warning letter to Apple CEO Tim Cook, citing MRC's research directly and questioning whether Apple News is honoring its own terms of service or misleading millions of users who rely on the app for balanced coverage.

Only after that surge of scrutiny did Apple News finally surface a right-leaning article — a non-political Fox News health story, not a piece that would meaningfully counterbalance its political curation. Before that, the last right-leaning story Apple featured was on Nov. 5, 2025, and it was placed behind the Apple News+ payroll.

Apple insists it offers access to thousands of outlets across the spectrum, but MRC's follow-up testing showed editors can override user "block" preferences, contradicting the company's public claims.

As MRC Vice President Dan Schneider put it, 1,379-to-1 speaks for itself.

This new finding landed just as MRC's January Apple News study — which documented 620 highlighted stories and zero from conservative outlets — was making national waves. That earlier study served as the basis



Dan Schneider @Schneider\_DC · 6h  
Apple News editors personally select each story it publishes. It did not include a single right-leaning outlet.  
620 to 0 is on purpose!

Elon Musk @elonmusk  
Wow

APPLE NEWS CONTINUES REJECTION OF RIGHT-LEANING OUTLETS IN JANUARY

Top Stories from Left-Leaning & Other Outlets	Top Stories from Right-Leaning Outlets
620	0

Elon Musk, the planet's most influential entrepreneur and innovator, has shared our work dozens of times over the years, most recently responding to MRC's Apple News report, responding "Wow" to Dan Schneider's post on the subject.

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump  
Apple News promotes left-leaning media outlets — as it shuts out conservative sites entirely: study: nypost.com/2026/02/10/business

nypost.com  
Apple News promotes left-leaning media outlets — as it shuts out conservative sites entirely: study  
Apple's popular news aggregation app displayed a clear bias against right-

President Trump shared the *New York Post*'s coverage of MRC's Apple News study to his 11.6 million Truth Social followers.

APPLE NEWS ACCUSED OF BOOSTING LEFT-LEANING MEDIA & SUPPRESSING CONSERVATIVE OUTLETS

Today I sent a letter to Tim Cook expressing my concerns about allegations that Apple News has, unbeknownst to its users, systematically promoted news articles from left-wing news outlets and suppressed content from conservative publications.

Andrew Ferguson @AFergusonFTC  
11 Feb 2026

MRC's study on Apple News, which featured zero conservative outlets among its 620 stories in January, received coverage from numerous media outlets across television, print, and the internet. Citing our work, FCC Chairman Andrew Ferguson sent a letter to Apple CEO Tim Cook, warning that Apple News may be in violation of consumer protection rules under the FTC Act.

MRC documents and combats the falsehoods and censorship of the news media, entertainment media and Big Tech to defend and preserve America's founding principles and Judeo-Christian values.

THE WATCHDOG (ISSN #1087-5077) is published monthly by the Media Research Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit research and education organization. © 2026 Media Research Center, All Rights Reserved. David Bozell, President • Kurt Etheridge, Brian McNicoll, Editors  
Media Research Center • 2340 Dulles Corner Blvd. • Suite 1000 • Herndon, Virginia 20171 • (571) 267-3500 • www.MRC.org