The liberal media did all they could to get Barack Obama elected to the presidency — and it worked. They carried water, cheer-led, covered-up, and spun good news and bad news in his favor throughout 2008 — and the polls proved it. Survey after survey showed that Americans believed the media backed Obama and were doing all they could to help him and to hurt John McCain and Sarah Palin.

In 2009, that pro-Obama media bias is going to get even worse. It will get worse because Obama embodies the liberal media’s faith—liberalism. They have staked everything on him and his presidency. In a sort-of Faustian bargain, the liberal media sold their credibility and their souls to Obama. If he fails, they fail.

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Thus, the liberal media will spin, distort, skew—do whatever it takes—to keep Obama on a pedestal and keep the liberal dream alive. In numerous ways, as the Media Research Center has documented, the canonization has already begun.

For example, the Nov. 4 election showed that Obama won 53 percent of the vote. Yet the liberal media immediately claimed that this win had somehow “unified” the country. CBS’s Byron Pitts declared the win had made America “a more perfect union.”

But do you remember what the same media outlets reported when George W. Bush got 51 percent of the vote—just two points less than Obama? How many dozens upon dozens of times did these same reporters declare that America was “divided”?

And so it goes.

Today, the liberal media see their job as protecting the new president. MSNBC’s Chris Matthews bluntly revealed that it is his job “to do everything I can to make this thing work, this new presidency work.... Yeah, it is my job. My job is to help this country.... This country needs a successful presidency more than anything right now.”

Neither Matthews nor any of his liberal media colleagues ever said similar things about Bush, or Bush 41 or Ronald Reagan. But they are helping Obama.

NBC’s Brian Williams and TIME magazine, for example, have already compared Obama to Franklin Delano Roosevelt — and Obama hasn’t even been sworn in as president! The Nov. 24 cover of TIME depicts Obama as FDR, complete with hat, monocle glasses, cigarette holder, and a headline that reads: “The New New Deal.”

On the Nov. 28 Nightly News, anchor Brian Williams interviewed FDR’s grandson, Curtis, and then asked: “Could
we use a little FDR right about now?” Curtis, of course, said yes and added, “I hope Obama picks it up,” in reference to FDR’s instilling “confidence and hope to the American people.”

Over at ABC’s Good Morning America on Nov. 21, co-host Diane Sawyer stopped the show, declaring, “There was something that made us all stop and think. And you know, it’s 60 days now — 60 days until the inauguration of a new President.” Sawyer then, in a hushed and awed tone, read from an essay written by Obama for TIME magazine (in 2005) about Abraham Lincoln. As Sawyer read — for a minute-and-a-half — images of Lincoln rolled across the screen.

Good grief.

But it didn’t stop. Three days later, Newsweek ran a cover with Obama in the forefront and Lincoln, larger, in the background. The headline? “Obama’s Lincoln.” In the issue, Newsweek stressed that the strongest similarity between Lincoln and Obama was their “humility.” For contrast, after Bush became president in 2001, Newsweek condescendingly headlined a story, “See George. See George Learn Foreign Policy.” Newsweek chirped: “Still a student ... [Bush] needs all the teachers he can get.”

In discussing Obama’s Cabinet picks, ABC’s Robin Roberts cooed on Nov. 24, “Some would say it’s a team of rivals, a la President Lincoln, or is a better comparison a team of geniuses as FDR did?” To which liberal colleague George Stephanopoulos replied: “Well, one Obama advisor told me what they like is a combination of team of rivals and ‘The Best and the Brightest,’ which was the David Halberstam book about the incoming Kennedy administration. I think there are parallels to all three.”

Stephanopoulos also enthused, “We have not seen this kind of combination of star power and brain power and political muscle this early in a cabinet in our lifetimes!”

Meanwhile, NBC’s Andrea Mitchell was telling viewers on Nov. 21 that Obama was assembling an “all-star Cabinet” comprised of the “strongest, smartest people.” Then on Dec. 3 she reported that Obama’s “mosaic” Cabinet choices seemed “effortless.”

It seems Obama can do no wrong. He has unified the country, is filling government with “the best and brightest” and is eager to lead America into an advanced stage of societal evolution with a “New New Deal.”

You and I see it differently. We see a socialist agenda unfolding.

The liberal media are crafting this image and enshrining it as best as they can because they told the world that Obama was the answer, if only Americans would elect him. Now he has to deliver. If he doesn’t, then the liberal media’s credibility is further shot.

The liberals are in charge now — the White House, the Congress, and, frequently, a 5-4 majority on the Supreme Court. Thus, the liberal, pro-Obama media bias will increase in 2009. They will do all they can to protect their franchise.

We will be extremely busy here at the Media Research Center, tracking that bias, exposing it, and neutralizing it. We are the only organization that does what we do, with a 20-plus-year track record of success and a fearless staff of experts committed to telling the American people the truth.

To get an understanding of the MRC’s impact, look over pages 3, 4 and 5 of this newsletter, which contain highlights from our work in 2008. Also, page 7 details just our most recent outreach — on radio, TV, in print and on the Web.

As always, we thank you for your support and wish you the best in the New Year.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
President
The Media Research Center achieved tremendous success in 2008, spreading its message about liberal media bias to more than 80 million Americans on average each week — through talk radio, TV, in newspapers, and across the Web. And that’s pretty darn good considering the multi-billion-dollar liberal media behemoths the MRC challenges each day.

Looking back over 2008, the MRC had impact and influence on a variety of fronts. Following are just some of the incredible highlights of last year.

The MRC’s Business & Media Institute capitalized on a report it produced two years ago that warned of the financial instability of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and how their potential bankruptcy could affect the U.S. economy. BMI’s forecast came to fruition in 2008 and its analysis was picked up by numerous media, particularly its exposure of Rep. Barney Frank’s (D-Mass.) coziness with and negligent oversight of Fannie and Freddie. BMI’s work on this was featured on Fox News, The Drudge Report and The Rush Limbaugh Show, reaching more than 25 million people.

BMI reported on how the founder of The Weather Channel advocated suing Al Gore for fraud because of his wacky claims about global warming. That report was picked up by Fox’s Special Report with Brit Hume, and by Rush Limbaugh, Neal Boortz and Glenn Beck, reaching more than 22 million people. BMI’s work on this was featured on Fox News, The Drudge Report and The Rush Limbaugh Show, reaching more than 22 million people. BMI’s work on this was featured on Fox News, The Drudge Report and The Rush Limbaugh Show, reaching more than 22 million people.

Everyone also knows about Hillary Clinton’s false comments about coming under fire in Bosnia. Who broke the story? We did. The News Analysis Division debunked Clinton’s campaign claim that she had faced down sniper fire during that trip 12 years ago, providing video showing her peaceful arrival at the Bosnia airport. Our report was picked up by Fox’s Special Report with Brit Hume, The Rush Limbaugh Show, the Los Angeles Times and, finally, CBS itself, whose own reporter went back and pulled the same video coverage that the MRC had captured. Total exposure? More than 23 million people.

The News Analysis Division produced two Special Reports about the liberal media’s near-worshipful coverage of Barack Obama — Obama’s Margin of Victory: The Media and Editing Reverend Wright’s Wrongs. Each

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The report was cited on two different editions of Fox’s The O’Reilly Factor, and in NewsMax, The Washington Times, and The Washington Post, reaching more than 6 million people overall.

EyeBlast.TV, launched by the MRC in the spring of 2008, had some big hits. The MRC video of Hillary Clinton in Bosnia was first released through Eyeblast and was ultimately viewed by more than 2 million people on YouTube. It also became an issue in the Democratic primaries.

An Eyeblast “Video Portrait of Barack Hussein Obama” was covered on the front-page of The New York Times (June 29), the most influential newspaper in the country.

The MRC’s Culture and Media Institute (CMI) released a report detailing the libertine agenda of popular columnist Dear Abby. The report garnered tremendous coverage, with citations on the Christian Broadcasting Network TV channel, in Focus on the Family magazine, The Washington Times, Dr. Laura Schlessinger’s Web site, American Family Radio and even the liberal Huffington Post.

CMI reported on HBO Bill Maher’s attacks on Pope Benedict XVI, which prompted more than 30,000 people to send protest e-mails to Time Warner and HBO. As a result, Bill Maher issued an apology.

A CMI report on the liberal media attacks on GOP vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin led to numerous syndicated talk-radio interviews and extensive coverage on Fox’s Special Report with Brit Hume and CNN’s American Morning, reaching more than 4 million people overall.

At CNSNews.com, the news service division of the MRC, countless stories were picked up by various media, reaching tens of millions of people.

A CNSNews.com story about how Obama’s long-time pastor and friend Rev. Jeremiah Wright smeared Italians for looking “down their garlic noses at the Galileans” and killing Jesus on “a Roman cross, public lynching Italian style” was picked up by nearly every major TV outlet: Fox’s O’Reilly Factor, Hannity & Colmes, On the Record with Greta Van Susteren, NBC’s Today, ABC’s Good Morning America, on the Rush Limbaugh and Mark Levin radio shows, and in The Boston Globe, Chicago Sun-Times, U.S. News & World Report and National Review, among many others, reaching an audience of more than 36 million people. So far, a Google Web search produces 5,410 links to the “garlic noses” story.

A CNSNews.com story on the pay inequity of the Obama staff vs. that of the McCain staff and a story on House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s (D-Calif.) use of a bogus Bible passage to justify global warming laws were picked up by Fox’s Special Report with Brit Hume, the Politico, and Investor’s Business Daily, reaching more than 4 million people. Also, at least 837 Web sites picked up on the Pelosi-Bible quote story.

A story on how multi-billion-dollar-bailout recipients CitiGroup, Merrill Lynch, Goldman Sachs, and Lehman Brothers paid ex-President Bill Clinton $2.1 million for speeches was carried by The Drudge
Report — exposure 13 million — and drove more than 40,000 readers to CNSNews.com.

One CNSNews.com story about a Planned Parenthood Web site extolling the benefits of pornography to teenagers prompted three members of Congress to publicly call for the defunding of Planned Parenthood. It also sparked a petition drive by the American Center for Law & Justice.

CNSNews.com stories on how liberals are trying to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to essentially muzzle conservative talk radio have been cited by Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Mark Levin, and The Drudge Report, reaching more than 20 million people. In addition, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) put out a press release based entirely on a CNSNews.com story to explain his position on the Fairness Doctrine. The release cited and included the entire CNSNews.com story.

In December, House Republican Leader John Boehner (Ohio) sent an e-mail release to all GOP members of Congress citing and including an entire story by CNSNews.com concerning unanswered questions about the $700 billion financial bailout.

"There is no doubt that NBC News continues to be in the tank for Barack Obama. According to a Media Research Center study, NBC is the most lopsided network in favor of Barack. Pro-Obama reports outnumber negative Barack Obama reports by 10-to-1 on NBC News according to the study." ~ Bill O’Reilly, August 26, 2008

MRC President Brent Bozell explains why the Fairness Doctrine is nothing more than an attempt to censor conservative talk radio, at a June 19, Capitol Hill press conference.

Reaching the largest audiences on radio and online

Rush Limbaugh and Matt Drudge frequently reported on or linked to MRC material throughout the year.

THE WASHINGTON POST
U.S. News & World Report
Washington Times
ASSOCIATED PRESS
Investor’s Business Daily
NEWSWEEK
The New York Times
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
United Press International
NEW YORK POST
USA Today
NATIONAL REVIEW

Top print publications across the country often cited MRC research or spokesmen, and thousands of other publications and blogs cited the MRC online.
Barbara Walters Falters

On the night before Thanksgiving, just an hour after Rosie O’Donnell had publicly belly-flopped with a horrible attempt at an old-time variety show on NBC, Barbara Walters made a fool of herself interviewing Barack and Michelle Obama. The toughest questions dealt with whether there was enough “change” in his cabinet picks, and whether he was “waffling” on tax hikes for the rich - questions his (and ABC’s) liberal base would enjoy.

Let’s go back eight years. On the Friday before the Inauguration, Walters interviewed then-President-elect George Bush and his wife Laura. But it was only one part of a routine 20/20 hour, and she brought harsh questions to carve up Attorney General nominee John Ashcroft as a divisive disaster.

This time, the media’s favorite won. The Obama interview drew a whole hour, which Walters promoted with a gooey splash of Obama fawning and interview clips all across the ABC News schedule. She was so ubiquitous one might have expected her to plug the Obamas in a cameo appearance on an ABC soap opera like All My Children.

On Good Morning America, she couldn’t help herself: “I don’t want to gush. They’re very cute, and very funny in this interview together.” That’s certainly in the eye of the beholder. Those inside the Obama tank naturally find their rehearsed marital patter to be incredibly charming. Republican households see a stale rerun of their fake-bickering, just as Democratic households undoubtedly saw the Bushes’ marital patter as less than “very cute.”

Walters showed footage of some of her dumb questions, such as asking Obama whether Wall Street executives should grant themselves a Christmas bonus. She also asked how he felt when he read that the three CEOs of the car companies took private planes to Washington to ask for a bailout. Naturally, Obama thought it was shockingly out of touch.

Stop the tape. Earth to Walters: Did it ever occur to you that Mr. Obama campaigned all over America by flying on a huge private 757 jet, painted as a vehicle of “Change” with a half-million dollar makeover for the general election, complete with Obama logos sewn into the headrests? And how do you suppose Ms. Walters travels? By carpool? What sheer hypocrisy – on both their parts.

Walters continued the gushing on her daytime show “The View.” Doing her usual tap-dance of faked objectivity, Walters cooed: “I’m supposed to be very neutral, but they are the most appealing couple, and so smart.” It’s easier to look smart when no one’s asking you a brain teaser. Walters shamelessly tried to sell the interview as super-substantive. Obama was asked about a range of matters foreign and domestic in the first twenty minutes, but all with a deeply deferential style.

She began by asking “What is your biggest fear?” That’s a blank canvas for a politician to paint any way he or she likes.

Walters explicitly compared the Obamas to the Camelot swoon over Jack and Jackie Kennedy, and their “youthful embodiment of style, substance, and hope.” Much of the hour was devoted to softballs. How would the Obamas spend Thanksgiving? How about the search for a new family dog? How will it be watching their grade-school-age girls grow up in the White House? The toughest question on the home front was the Obamas’ choice of a private school. Walters simply declared “Tell us why private school for the girls, and not public school.” She could have asked it this way, too: “Tell us why a black child in southeast D.C doesn’t have the choice of a fancy private school like your privileged daughters because you oppose vouchers.”

The sugary sweetness never seemed to end. Walters also reprised her free advertising copy on the Obamas in a preview on “World News” in the dinner hour — they were again described as very candid and very funny. A half-hour after the Obama special ended, Nightline reran clips, and Walters dragged out the megaphone of praise yet again: “When you see him with his wife Michelle, he is so relaxed, he is funny. I have rarely seen a couple as devoted, as together, whether they’re talking about their children or the kind of dog they’re going to get...They tease each other, but the respect that they have for each other is enormous.”

All in all, it was one long day of ABC News shamelessly kissing rings. Like so many interviewers, Walters was not trying to build a factual record. She was trying to create a grand and glorious Obamalot myth, incessantly urging the public to buy her super-smart-cute-and-funny couple as the best choice history could have mustered.
The experts at the Media Research Center are interviewed almost every day on stories of national importance, often reaching millions of Americans daily. They provide analysis and commentary on radio, TV, the Internet, in magazines, books and in newspapers, always striving to help restore political balance to the major media. Some of the MRC’s latest media appearances include the following:

### Televison

- **CBN**: Newswatch, Nov. 11, 25
- **CNN**: Headline News, Nov. 12, 22
  - The Situation Room, Nov. 20, 25, Dec. 2
- **FBN**: Your World w/Neil Cavuto, Nov. 7
- **FNC**: Fox & Friends, Nov. 6, 7, 24, 26
  - America’s Newsroom, Nov. 17
  - Fox News Watch, Nov. 1
  - Strategy Room, Dec. 4
  - Election HQ, Nov. 3
- **MSNBC**: Countdown, Nov. 10

### Radio

Faith2Action, Nov. 12
- Dateline America, Nov. 7, 13
- John Clemens Report, Nov. 13
- Catholic Connection, Nov. 14, 24
  - Point of View, Nov. 14
  - G. Gordon Liddy, Nov. 12, Dec. 3
  - Crosstalk, Nov. 12, 18
- Faith Broadcasting, Dec. 3
  - The Right Balance, Nov. 10, 14, 20, Dec. 2, 4
  - NRA News, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 5
- American Family News, Nov. 5, 10, 18, 19
- Michael Reagan Show, Nov. 19
- Sean Hannity Show, Nov. 19
- Liberty Broadcasting, Nov. 26
- Janet Parshall’s America, Nov. 13, Dec. 9
- Ringside Politics, Nov. 14, Nov. 13
- Relevant Radio, Nov. 21
- Family News in Focus, Dec. 4
- Faith Broadcasting, Nov. 17
  - 1700 San Diego, CA, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26
- WYOO, Panama City, FL, Nov. 17
- WWYB, Eau Claire, WI, Nov. 21
- WWTN, Nashville, TN, Nov. 10
- WTKF, Greenville, NC, Nov. 21, 26
- WSAU, Wausau, WI, Nov. 17, Dec. 3, 4
- WRVC, Huntington, WV, Nov. 24
- WNOJ, Detroit, MI, Nov. 12, Dec. 1
- WLB, nationally syndicated, Nov. 24, Dec. 2
- WIMO, Bethlehem, GA, Nov. 3, 14

### Internet

The Washington Post blog, Nov. 2
- Human Events Online, Nov. 27, Dec. 1
- National Review Online, Nov. 5
- Fox News.com, Nov. 6, 20, 25
- CBNNews.com, Nov. 15, 26
- OneNewsNow.com, Nov. 7, 24, 28
- PoliticalCortex.com, Nov. 21
- New York Times blog, Nov. 7
- Church Report, Nov. 18, 21
- NewsMax.com, Nov. 10, 11
- American Thinker, Nov. 3
- Salon.com, Nov. 8, Dec. 1
- RenewAmerica.com, Nov. 13
- MediaPost, Nov. 4
- FrontPageMagazine.com, Nov. 5
- The Atlantic.com, Nov. 5
- AmericanSpectator.com, Nov. 6
- Townhall.com, Nov. 4, 5, 6
Do You Know How Your Assets Will Be Distributed and Used Upon Your Death?

Make sure the Feds don’t end up with the lion’s share of your estate!

Even with the recent changes in estate tax legislation, if you pass away with more than $2 million in your estate (including homes, investments, retirement accounts, etc.), your estate will be subject to a tax rate as high as 46% of the excess.

Consider, instead, a gift to the Media Research Center in your will, living trust, insurance policy or retirement plan. Not only will your estate receive a deduction for the value of this gift, but by including the MRC in your estate plans you can help guarantee that America’s Media Watchdog will continue to document, expose, and neutralize the liberal media for years to come.

For more information, please call Thom Golab today at: (800) 672-1423

You can also visit us online at: www.mrc.gift-planning.org