The Media Research Center has been fighting against the liberal media for 23 years. We’ve won many battles during that time and our influence now reaches millions of people every day, through talk radio, cable TV, print and the Internet. We are the leader: America’s media watchdog.

But the leftist “news” media are anything but dead. In fact, with the emergence of Barack Obama they have come alive, blazing with a socialist agenda.

I can honestly say 2009 was among the worst years of in-your-face bias by the leftists who still dominate the major news outlets. On nearly every issue and event, the liberal media pushed their scarlet agenda. Let’s look at some examples.

When Barack Obama was inaugurated on Jan. 20 it was as if a messiah had arrived. Reporting live from Capitol Hill, ABC’s Bill Weir told America that the vast inaugural crowd was shivering with joy and that, “from above, even the seagulls must have been awed by the blanket of humanity.” NBC’s Andrea Mitchell compared the flickering of cell phone cameras to “stars” that were “shining back” at Obama. NBC icon Tom Brokaw, with a straight face, compared the departure of Bush and arrival of Obama to the Velvet Revolution that overthrew the communists in Prague.

Then there were the endless attacks against conservative talk radio — by the White House and the media. Three days after becoming president, Obama told Republicans, “You can’t just listen to Rush Limbaugh and get things done.” The liberal media played it up, reporting that the talk-radio host somehow controlled the Republican Party.

Then they bashed Rush for suggesting the Democrats might exploit Ted Kennedy’s battle with brain cancer to push socialized medicine through Congress. Which is exactly what they did. The day after Kennedy died, NBC’s Brian Williams speculated, “Will this [Kennedy’s death] be the very thing that might break the log jam over getting it done? Or not?” The same network then quoted House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.): “Kennedy’s dream of quality health care for all Americans will be made real this year because of his leadership and inspiration.”

The liberal media also repeated fake quotes to smear Rush as a racist in October to stop his potential bid for a football team.

The character assassination strategy against Rush was precisely what we predicted would happen (in late 2008) if the leftists won the White House. It
Continued from page 1

was also used against Sarah Palin throughout 2009 and especially when her best-selling book, “Going Rogue,” was published in November.

CNN’s Joy Behar, for example, snapped that Palin’s voter “base doesn’t even read.” Al Gore’s “Current TV” called Palin a “gun ho” (slang for whore) and a “TWILF” (an acronym for “Twitter-er I’d Like To F---”). MSNBC’s Chris Matthews labeled her a political “troglodyte.”

The White House slammed Fox News Channel, as well, echoing the editorial rhetoric of its competitors CNN and MSNBC. Obama’s Communications Director Anita Dunn, for example, went on CNN and dismissed Fox as a “wing of the Republican Party” and “not a news network at this point.” Obama’s top adviser David Axelrod went on ABC’s This Week and lectured that Fox News is “really not news, it’s pushing a point of view. …”

These attacks were all designed to discredit news outlets that report fairly on the administration and marginalize conservatives who dare to criticize the White House’s policies. The liberals can’t argue the facts, so they throw mud.

The good news is that the strategy backfired. The controversy sent Fox’s ratings through the roof. Rush Limbaugh is still the No. 1 talk-radio show in the nation with 25-million listeners, and Sarah Palin’s book sold more than 1 million copies in its first two weeks of publication.

Then there was the Tea Party movement, which the liberal media, the White House, and the lefties in Congress relentlessly attacked. Typical was CNN’s Susan Roesgen, who attended a Tea Party rally in April and described it as “anti-government, [and] anti-CNN since this is highly promoted by the right-wing conservative network Fox.”

ABC’s Dan Harris reported that Tea Party activists were fronts for “corporate interests,” which echoed House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s (D-Calif.) claim that these grassroots protesters were really “astroturf” activists, meaning paid shills for big business.

As the Tea Party movement and its conservative message spread, the liberal media started labeling the activists “tea baggers,” an innuendo for a type of oral sex. Typical was CNN’s Anderson Cooper who, in response to a comment about Republicans finding a common voice, said, “It’s hard to talk when you’re tea bagging.”

On health care, the liberal media repeated nearly every claim by the White House and lefties in Congress. A prime example is that there are 46 million people without health insurance in America — the real number of chronically uninsured is around 8 million. This is out of a population of more than 300 million and, as the polls show, 84 percent of whom are satisfied with their health care.

When it came to the war against terrorism, the liberal media gave the Obama administration every benefit of the doubt in 2009. They continued to blame Bush and Gitmo for somehow still inspiring terrorist attacks in Afghanistan. They almost totally ignored the rapid rise in U.S. troop casualties after Obama launched his Afghan strategy in April (and then, finally, revised it in November). And the liberal media were quick to swallow the White House line that the Ft. Hood shooter (Allahu Akbar!”) was not a jihadist and that the Christmas Day Underwear Bomber was “an isolated extremist.”

Last, but not least, the economy was big in the news in 2009, and so was the liberal slant. One example: Americans were frantically told we had to pass the $789 billion stimulus bill in February to get people back to work or unemployment would reach 8 percent. Well, the bill became law, more people lost their jobs, and now unemployment is at 10 percent. When asked what happened, the White House said the government didn’t spend enough. The liberal media didn’t question this Keynesian myth but obediently reported it as gospel.

In 2009, the liberal media did all they could to promote Obama and malign his critics. They invested everything in him and his agenda. If his radical policies fail, as they already are, the media’s credibility will be further shot.

Liberalism does not work, as you know, and as 2010 unfolds the MRC will keep fighting to cut the leftist media beast to its knees and bring the truth to the nation. The tide is turning. Be of good cheer! It is a promising New Year.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
The liberal media bias in 2009 was over the top and nauseating, with lefty reporters journalistically salivating over the presidential inauguration of Barack Obama and the Democrats’ control of Congress, as well as cheering daily for socialized medicine, among other issues dear to radical hearts. In looking at the biased reporting, the Media Research Center picked the most outlandish quotes and had them scored by 48 distinguished judges, from which the MRC gave 16 awards for the worst reporting of 2009.

The winning quotes, presented here, are politically delicious and reveal, once again, the sweeping extent of bias in the liberal media. To view the full multimedia awards report, visit www.MRC.org.

Coronation of the Messiah Award for Fawning Inaugural Coverage

“We know that wind can make a cold day feel colder, but can national pride make a freezing day feel warmer? It seems to be the case because regardless of the final crowd number estimates, never have so many people shivered so long with such joy. From above, even the seagulls must have been awed by the blanket of humanity.” — ABC’s Bill Weir, World News, Jan. 20.

Obamagasm Award for Seeing Coolness in Everything Obama Does

Reporter John Harwood: “He had this fly that was persistently buzzing around him. He swatted his hand and he said, ‘I got the sucker.’ He threw it onto the ground. It was a, you know, Dirty Harry ‘make my day’ moment.”

— Exchange on MSNBC after Harwood’s CNBC interview with President Obama, June 16.

Master of His Domain Award for Obama Puffery

“The legislative achievements have been stupendous. ... There has also been a cascade of new policies to address the financial crisis. ... Obama has also completely overhauled foreign policy. ‘In a way, Obama’s 100 days is even more dramatic than Roosevelt’s,’ says Elaine Kamarck of Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. ‘Roosevelt only had to deal with a domestic crisis. Obama has had to overhaul foreign policy as well, including two wars. And that’s really the secret of why this has seemed so spectacular.’” — TIME’s Joe Klein, May 4 cover story on Obama’s first 100 days.

Audacity of Dopes Award for Wackiest Analysis

“Reagan [at the 1984 D-Day commemoration] was all about America. Obama is, ‘We are above that now. We’re not just parochial, we’re not just chauvinistic, we’re not just provincial. We stand for something.’ I mean, in a way, Obama’s standing above the country, above — above the world. He’s sort of God. He’s going to bring all different sides together.” — Newsweek’s Evan Thomas on MSNBC’s Hardball, June 5.
Damn Those Conservatives Award

“The Republicans lie! They want to see you dead! They’d rather make money off your dead corpse! They kind of like it when that woman has cancer and they don’t have anything for her.”
— Ed Schultz, host of MSNBC’s The Ed Show, Sept. 23.

Crush Rush Award for Loathing Limbaugh

“The type of female that does like Rush is the same type of woman that falls in love with prisoners. You know what I mean? They like Richard Ramirez or — Squeaky Fromme is a good example. Eva Braun, Hitler’s girlfriend. That is exactly the type of woman that responds really well to Rush.”

Big Brain Award for Journalists Bedazzled by Obama’s Brilliance

“I like to say that, in some ways, Barack Obama is the first President since George Washington to be taking a step down into the Oval Office. I mean, from visionary leader of a giant movement, now he’s got an executive position that he has to perform in, in a way.”

Michelle, the Media Belle Award

Reporter Dawna Friesen: “Her husband is, of course, the big star of the show, but this is Michelle Obama’s first foray on to the global stage as First Lady. And you can bet that her every move, her every fashion decision will be dissected and analyzed, especially when the couple go to meet the Queen. But she’s got a lot of good will on her side. Ask the British about Michelle Obama, and you’ll hear a lot of what you hear in the states.”

Man on the street: “She looks supportive and that’s what a man needs in life.”
Second man: “I have been totally stunned at the awesome nature of Michelle Obama.”...
Friesen: “Then there’s those arms, the envy of a lot of British women.” — NBC’s Today, March 31.

Un-Fairness Doctrine Award for Slamming Media Conservatives

“Let me be precise here: Fox News peddles a fair amount of hateful crap. Some of it borders on sedition. Much of it is flat out untrue. But I don’t understand why the White House would give such poisonous helium balloons as Glenn Beck and Sean Hannity the opportunity for still greater spasms of self-inflation by declaring war on Fox….The best antidote to their garbage is elegant, intelligent governance.”
— Time’s Joe Klein on the magazine’s “Swampland” blog, Oct. 23.

Half-Baked Alaska Award for Pummeling Palin

“Here’s the question: ‘Would you rather listen to a speech by Sarah Palin or a speech by Newt Gingrich?’ Go to CNN — or would you rather just stick needles in your eyes? ... I’m not interested in listening to either one of them.” — CNN’s Jack Cafferty, The Situation Room, June 9.
Let Us Fluff Your Pillow Award

“You’re so confident, Mr. President, and so focused. Is your confidence ever shaken? Do you ever wake up and say, ‘Damn, this is hard. Damn, I’m not going to get the things done I want to get done.’” — CBS’s Katie Couric in an exchange with Obama, The Early Show, July 22.

Barbra Streisand Political IQ Award for Celebrity Vapidity

Actor Denis Leary: “I do have to say that I think that President Obama is the greatest president in the history of all of our presidents, and that he can do no wrong in my book. So how’s that for prejudice on the Democratic side?”

Fill-in host Joy Behar: “What do you think of Obama’s pick of Sotomayor?”

Leary: “Fantastic!”

Behar: “You love her?”

Leary: “Everything you ask me about President Obama I’m just going to say it’s the greatest thing ever. I love the guy!” — Exchange on CNN’s Larry King Live, May 29.

Spread the Wealth Award for Socialist Sermonizing

“Why not just nationalize the banks? … People are angry. [W]hy shouldn’t you just fire the executives who wrecked these banks in the first place and tanked the world’s financial system in the process?” — ABC’s Terry Moran interviewing President Obama for Nightline, Feb. 10.

Poison Tea Pot Award for Smearing the Anti-Obama Rabble

CNN analyst David Gergen: “Republicans are pretty much in disarray. … They have not yet come up with a compelling alternative.”

Anchor Anderson Cooper: “Teabagging. They’ve got teabagging.”

Gergen: “Well, they’ve got the teabagging. …[But] they’re searching for their voice.”

Cooper: “It’s hard to talk when you’re teabagging.” — CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360, April 14. “Teabagging” is slang for a type of oral sex.

Long Live Camelot Award for Lionizing Ted Kennedy – Quote of the Year

“We don’t know how much Kennedy was affected by her [Mary Jo Kopechne’s] death, or what she’d have thought about arguably being a catalyst for the most successful Senate career in history. … [One wonders what] Mary Jo Kopechne would have had to say about Ted’s death, and what she’d have thought of the life and career that are being (rightfully) heralded. Who knows — maybe she’d feel it was worth it.” — Discover magazine deputy web editor Melissa Lafsky, writing at the Huffington Post, Aug. 27.

The judges for this year’s awards consisted of a panel of 48 distinguished talk-radio hosts, magazine editors, columnists, editorial writers, and media analysts, including Neal Boortz, Priscilla Buckley, Midge Decter, John Fund, Lucianne Goldberg, Jeff Jacoby, Mark Larson, Mark Levin, Kate O’Beirne, Cal Thomas, R. Emmett Tyrrell, Walter E. Williams, and Martha Zoller.
Kicking Rush When He’s Down

The news that Rush Limbaugh had entered a Hawaii hospital over the New Year’s weekend complaining of chest pains triggered a volcanic internet eruption for the hard left the likes of which we’ve never seen before. If Mt. Vesuvius could vomit in a literal sense, this would be it.

This time these radicals let their guard down and showed their true colors.

The Twitter lines were ablaze as liberals celebrated the news, news that suggested Mr. Limbaugh was at the very least very ill, and quite possibly dying or maybe already dead:

“Rush Limbaugh was rushed to the hospital in Honolulu. Maybe Santa did get my letter.”

“Rush was rushed to the Hospital. Just when I thought Christmas was over…”

“Come on God, I don’t ask for much, and I very rarely ask you to smite anyone, but please kill Rush Limbaugh tonight.”

Sounding boards like “Democratic Underground” had field days, living down to their reputations for wishing the very worst for conservatives. One very early conversation among their members carried this exchange:

“I hope he croaks. The world would be a better place.”

“No such luck! Remember, ‘only the good die young.’”

“If that holds true, the miserable troglodyte will make Methuselah look like a teenager by the time he dies.”

Over on the pop culture TMZ site there were some strong words of encouragement for the radio talk show titan but still the leftist hatred dominated. Examples:

“Best news I’ve heard in years… Hope he joins [Michael Jackson] the sooner the better.”

“It is nature’s way of telling a—holes like Limbaugh that beers are being thrown back in celebration of that heart attack.”

“If he gets well, so be it. If he gets worse, be it paralyzed, comatose, or dead, he’s earned it. I hope he dies and I’m glad he’s sick. All this fat a—hole has done is encourage a whole generation of Americans to be right-wing, bigoted scumbags like him. I’ll never apologize for hating Rush. Or wishing death and illness on him.”

“So if Adolf Hitler were to die today would we see a bunch of RIP diaries and ‘our heart should go out to his friends and family’?”

It is heartening (pun intended) to note that not every liberal institution behaved so abominably. Let us hold up for commendation sites like the Huffington Post which made the editorial decision not to run any vicious attacks on Rush, instead limiting its commenters to good wishes for his recovery.

Likewise there were numerous liberal activists out there who, while clearly expressing their political differences with the conservative leader, also loudly expressed their desire for his well-being and equally loudly (and futilely) called for their fellow liberals to well-behave.

But too many liberals didn’t, because too many liberals just can’t, and I don’t ever want to hear another sermon from them about “civility”, or “the politics of personal destruction.” They are no longer allowed to talk about “hate” or pass judgment on what is “mean-spirited.” I don’t want to hear the words “character assassination” or even “cheap shot” leave their lips.

Unless, of course, it’s preceded by “I am guilty of...” Roger Ebert, the long-time movie critic was for many years a very fat man. He is thinner now after a series of cancer surgeries on his throat and jaw which have left him unable to speak without a machine. It is beyond curious - it is crass, and downright sick, wholly unprofessional, and personally pathetic -- that this man found it appropriate to make Rush-is-a-fatty jokes on Twitter (especially since Rush no longer is overweight).

“Rush: Hawaii is the only country where the Hawaiian shirts come in S, M, L, XL, Rush, and Sumo.”

“Surgeons: ‘Rush doesn’t require a heart transplant, but an installation.’”

“Tests find nothing wrong with Rush Limbaugh’s heart. Physically.”

Ebert has apologized. Whatever.

Rush, it’s good to hear you are well. It’s a helluva’ way to start the new year.
March 31, 2009

Dear Brent,

I had meant to write you shortly after the Trustees meeting but, as usual, time is the enemy and I find myself playing catch-up. The Trustees meeting and all of its associated events were extremely well done this year, and my son David and I had a wonderful time. The iconic backdrop of the illuminated Capitol at the Trustees dinner on Wednesday night was a fitting symbol of what is at stake in our common cause at MRC. I wish to congratulate and thank you for the great work you and the MRC staff have done all year, and for the opportunity MRC provides to commune with like-minded spirits in these challenging times. I would also like to express my gratitude for the especially cordial and considerate treatment my son David and I received from you and the other MRC staff members.

Most importantly, of course, is the work still to be done. Your closing remarks at the Trustees meeting were heartfelt, inspirational and deeply moving to me and, I’m certain, to the rest of the Trustees. You were absolutely right. “Whatever we’ve done in our lives so far, hasn’t been enough. Whatever we’ve done together at the MRC, hasn’t been enough. Whatever sacrifices we’ve made have not been enough. Our country is wounded, we must love her more.”

In response to our nation’s situation and your call to arms I would like to increase my commitment to MRC this year from the $30,000 annual level which I’ve contributed over each of the last five years to $50,000. If circumstances permit, and they might, I will try to exceed that figure. I am pleased to inform you that David has expressed a desire to become an MRC Associate and will be making his own contribution of $1,000 this year. It is essential to the MRC’s future to bring young blood into the fold.

It is a privilege to contribute in some small way to MRC’s vital work which goes far beyond countering liberal bias in the mainstream media. That mission is to promote and defend our shared vision of a strong and sovereign America based on freedom, individual liberty, personal responsibility and Judeo-Christian values. Thank you and God bless you and the MRC in this work on behalf of America.

Best Regards,

Seymour Fein
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:

### Television

- **CBN:** News, Dec. 31  
  *NewsWatch*, Jan. 6
- **CNN:** *The Situation Room*, Jan. 4, 6, 8
- **FNC:** *Special Report w/ Brett Baier*, Jan. 5
  *The O’Reilly Factor*, Dec. 23, Jan. 5
  *Fox & Friends*, Dec. 28, 30
- **MSNBC:** *Countdown*, Dec. 14, Jan. 4

### Print

- **Washington Examiner**, Dec. 21, Jan. 7
  *Reason* magazine, January 2010
- **Cleveland Plain-Dealer**, Dec. 19
- **Oklahoman**, Dec. 14
- **Washington Times**, Dec. 6, 7, 9, 11, 14  
  Jan. 4, 5
- **The Politico**, Dec. 11, 12
- **Human Events**, Dec. 16
- **Pittsburgh Tribune-Review**, Dec. 14, 19, 26,  
  Jan. 2, 4
- **Centre Daily Times**, Dec. 8
  *Durant Daily Democrat*, Jan. 8
  *The Independent*, Dec. 9
  *Canada Free Press*, Dec. 21
  *WORLD* Magazine, Jan. 8
  - **PARTIAL LISTING**

### Radio

- **Lou Dobbs Show**, Dec. 22  
  National Public Radio, Jan. 8
- **Martha Zoller Show**, Jan. 6
  Georgene Rice Show, Jan. 4
- **Lars Larson Show**, Dec. 10, Jan. 7
  Neal Boortz Show, Dec. 10
  *Faith2Action Radio*, Jan. 6
- **American Family Radio**, Dec. 8, Jan. 5, 6
  Thom Hartmann Show, Dec. 9, 23
  Rusty Humphries Show, Dec. 15
  Jesse Lee Peterson Show, Dec. 16
  *Mike McConnell Show*, Jan. 13
  *Cable Radio Network*, Dec. 23
  *Information Radio Network*, Dec. 17
  *TruNews Radio*, Dec. 14, 21
  *Blog Talk Radio*, Jan. 7
  *WGSO, Ringside Politics*, Dec. 23
  *NRA News*, Dec. 17, 24
  *USA Radio Network*, Dec. 30
  *WOR, New York, NY*, Dec. 21
  *WBIC, Indianapolis, IN*, Dec. 16, 22
  *WIBA, Madison, WI*, Dec. 15, 17, 28, 29
  *KKTX, Corpus Christi, TX*, Dec. 7, 16, 23
  *KSFO, San Francisco, CA*, Jan. 6
  *WBT, Charlotte, NC*, Dec. 27
  *WENY, Corning, NY*, Dec. 23
  *KBAR, Burley, ID*, Dec. 28
  *WBIG, Chicago, IL*, Dec. 22
  *WPTF, Raleigh, NC*, Dec. 22
  *WTAN, Clearwater, FL*, Dec. 7, 14, 18, 22
  *WENY, Corning, NY*, Dec. 16
  *WSPD, Toledo, OH*, Dec. 21
  *KFMB, San Diego, CA*, Dec. 16
  *KLWP, St. Louis, MO*, Dec. 28
  *WRTA, Altoona, PA*, Jan. 7
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### Internet

- **Drudge Report**, Dec. 21, Jan. 4, 5, 6
  *U.S. News blog*, Dec. 21
  *OneNewsNow*, Dec. 22
  *Newsmax.com*, Dec. 9, 14, 22
  *BreitbartTV*, Dec. 21, 22
  *Beltway Blips*, Dec. 12
  *Examiner.com*, Dec. 16
  *WorldNetDaily*, Dec. 5
  *Townhall.com*, Dec. 5
  *LifeNews.com*, Dec. 7, 23
  *MediaBistro.com*, Dec. 7
  *HotAir.com*, Dec. 8, 10
  *NBC Miami.com*, Dec. 10
  *American Spectator blog*, Dec. 11, Jan. 6
  *Yahoo! News*, Dec. 10, 30
  *FoxNews.com*, Dec. 7
  *Digital Journal*, Dec. 7
  *BNET.com*, Dec. 8
  *Human Events Online*, Dec. 30
  *Reason Online*, Dec. 18
  *NewsHounds*, Dec. 31
  *PowerLine blog*, Dec. 25
  *Huffington Post*, Dec. 24
  *American Thinker*, Dec. 29
  *Plain Dealer blog*, Dec. 19
  *Right Side News*, Jan. 6
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**MRC in the News**

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**MRC President Brent Bozell discusses the MRC’s awards for worst reporting of 2009 on Fox & Friends, Dec. 28.**

**Fox’s Brett Baier** cited Brent Bozell and the MRC concerning the liberal double standard in covering Sen. Harry Reid’s (D-Nev.) racial comments about Barack Obama, Jan. 11.

**On CNN’s The Situation Room, CNSNews.com Editor Terry Jeffrey analyzed how President Obama’s budget would add trillions of dollars to the national debt, Dec. 31.**

**The MRC’s Tim Graham details the liberal bias of CBS’s Katie Couric on Fox’s The O’Reilly Factor, Dec. 23.**

“I LOVE CNSNEWS, as you know and I don’t want to miss a thing you send out.”

– JANET PARSHALL