The horrific shooting in Tucson, which killed six people, including a 9-year-old girl, and wounded 13 others, including a member of Congress, was heart-wrenching and tragic. It represented an attack against our republic and all Americans, regardless of political persuasion.

Yet within hours, even before some of the most basic facts were confirmed, the liberal media had already mapped out the storyline: Conservative leaders and conservative political speech had pushed a young man over the edge to commit mass murder. Conservatives in talk radio, on cable TV, and on the Internet were responsible for this heinous crime.

Yet it just didn’t matter that there was zero evidence to substantiate that absurd claim. The liberal media didn’t care. Their goal is to criminalize conservative thought and they are willing to accuse, indict, and prosecute anyone who stands in the way of that goal. So at the MRC we documented and exposed their malicious campaign. Let’s look at some of what they did.

Two days after his initial remarks, ABC News gave Dupnik a nationwide platform (with 6 million viewers) to claim that “the whole Tea Party” was the enemy of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

NYT’s Paul Krugman said there’s no proof the Tucson shooting was political, but “odds are that it was,” citing that “the whole Tea Party” was the enemy of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

From there, the liberal media were off and running. The sheriff in Tucson, Clarence Dupnik, himself a liberal Democrat, held a press conference where he blamed “the vitriolic rhetoric that we hear day in and day out from people in the radio business and some people in the TV business.” I.e., conservative talk radio and Fox News.

The liberal networks, cable TV, and the major newspapers reported Dupnik’s dumb-founded assertions ad nauseam. By Jan. 12, 112 newspapers and 22 TV news outlets had carried the sheriff’s remarks. Also, a Google search of “Dupnik” and “vitriolic rhetoric” pulled up 18,100 citations. We documented all this.

Two days after his initial remarks, ABC News gave Dupnik a nationwide platform (with 6 million viewers) to claim that “the kind of rhetoric that flows from people like Rush Limbaugh” is “irresponsible” and “not without consequences.” When asked by Diane Sawyer if there was a connection between...
Limbaugh’s speech and the shooting massacre, Dupnik said, “Of course.”

Never mind that the killer’s friends told the press he never listened to talk radio or watched the news.

Over at The New York Times, they didn’t miss a beat. Left-wing columnist Paul Krugman, on the day of the shooting, wrote: “We don’t have proof yet that this was political, but the odds are that it was … Her [Giffords’] father says that ‘the whole Tea Party’ was her enemy. And yes, she was on Sarah Palin’s infamous ‘crosshairs’ list.”

On its Jan. 10 editorial page, the NYT harped about “anger and violence in American politics” and implied that Sarah Palin’s use of cross-haired bullseye targets on a map of congressional races in 2010 was somehow responsible for the shooting.

NBC, CBS, ABC, MSNBC and CNN also ran speculative and absurd stories about Palin’s political map. NBC’s Andrea Mitchell was the most reckless, as we documented, constantly smearing the Tea Party and Palin and then couching, “There is no direct [Palin] link to this suspect, as far as investigators know.” No direct link? There is no link at all, zero! NBC just wants to shut conservatives up. That’s the goal.

MSNBC’s Chris Matthews used the same template. On the Jan. 10 Hardball he fretted, “Sarah Palin using gun play language. What is she talking about crosshairs and reloading. And [Rep. Michele] Bachmann out there with her kind of talk. Why are guns talked about so much, especially on the right?”

What about the fact that the far-left Daily Kos Web site also put the congresswoman’s face in crosshairs just last month after she voted against Nancy Pelosi as Minority Leader? This was conveniently … ignored.

On ABC’s Good Morning America, George Stephanopoulos remarked there was “no evidence” that the gunman was motivated by politics, but then he proceeded to talk about precisely that, parroting, “this has sparked a debate about the political debate in this country.”

So if there’s “no evidence” — why say it? Because it fuels the liberal media’s anti-conservative propaganda machine. They are desperate to plant a storyline in the public’s mind that conservative speech breeds killers who murder little girls and threaten the republic.

As we have documented on our Web site, our NewsBusters blog, in our news service, and on our own MRC TV, the liberal media are not concerned about violent rhetoric. (They say nothing about left-wing death wishes against conservatives.) This is all part of a much more insidious and calculated campaign to criminalize conservative thought. Their next step is to ramp up support to regulate free speech on radio airwaves and the like. It is coming.

The good news is that CBS’ own poll on Jan. 11 showed that 57 percent of Americans said “no” when asked if a “harsh political tone” had impacted the Arizona shootings. Only 32 percent said “yes.” Even after that avalanche of left-wing propaganda, the public isn’t buying their message — because we’re exposing their dishonesty.

Those numbers are in our favor because of the power of the alternative media, the ability through technology to get the truth to the public. Get the truth out, restore balance to the media and people can make informed decisions. That’s a large part of our mission. It’s working. But it’s a knock-down, drag-out fight against the liberals every day. We must keep the pressure on, and we will win.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
‘Confusing’ Constitution

MSNBC’s Norah O’Donnell preemptively slapped the Republicans in the House on Dec. 30 for daring to read the Constitution cover-to-cover on the House floor when they were sworn in on Jan. 5, describing it as “lip service” to the Constitution and “a gimmick.” Her guest, lefty Ezra Klein of The Washington Post was quick to agree, snapping “Yes, it’s a gimmick.”

Klein then lectured, “The issue of the Constitution is that the text is confusing because it was written more than 100 years ago and what people believe it says differs from person to person and differs depending on what they want to get done.”

Note to Professor Klein: The Constitution was adopted in 1787 — 224 years ago — and is only confusing to liberal journalists who don’t like what it says about limits on government.

Hail Red China

The New York Times still has a soft spot for Communist China, a regime that has killed more than 65 million of its own people. Case in point, reporter Edward Wong’s Dec. 30 story, “China’s Red Tourism Taps Communist Pride for Profit,” prattles on about how “red is far from dead” and looks at how a reenactment of the “Defense of Yan’an” is a bustling tourist attraction that evokes “the glory days of the Communist Party.”

As part of the boom in “red tourism,” the Chinese, “many of them young professionals, journey to famous revolutionary sites to rekindle their long-lost sense of class struggle and proletarian principles,” says Wong, adding that members of the tour group sport “Mao pins on their lapels.” Wong then buries a brief mention of the “horrors of the great famine” in the 18th paragraph and reports no details about the political genocide perpetrated in Communist China.

Kennedy Shortage

ABC’s World News Sunday nearly wept in reporting on Jan. 2 that 2011 marks “the first time in 64 years that there has not been a Kennedy in office.” In the coverage, reporter John Hendren walked the halls of Congress and lamented, “The sun has set on the Kennedy era,” and then broke to Kathleen Kennedy Townsend who moaned, “I think it’s sad. I think that we need a Kennedy.”

Hendren then recounted the death of Sen. Ted Kennedy, “the Lion of the Senate,” and the retirement of Rep. Patrick Kennedy. But Hendren was still hopeful, cheering that “there are still dozens of young Kennedys who could pick up the torch, so it’s possible this is a gap and not the end of an era.” ABC’s Kennedy lovefest coverage ended by quoting Ted Kennedy, “The work begins anew, the hope rises again, the dream lives on.”
THE BEST NOTABLE QUOTABLES
OF 2010

The 2010 election year provided an abundance of riches — if one can call it that — of liberal media bias. In December, the MRC announced the winners of the worst reporting with its “Best Notable Quotables 2010.” The winners and runners-up were selected by a distinguished group of 46 talk-radio hosts, columnists, and editors, including Cal Thomas, Neal Boortz, Kate O’Beirne and Martha Zoller. Presented here are some of the winners for 2010.

Quote of the Year

Clip of Obama from 2008: “My family gave me love. They gave me an education. And most of all, they gave me hope. Hope, hope that in America no dream is beyond our grasp if we reach for it, and fight for it, and work for it.”

Chris Matthews: “I get the same thrill up my leg, all over me, every time I hear those words. I’m sorry, ladies and gentlemen, that’s me. He’s talking about my country and nobody does it better. Can President Obama stir us again and help his party keep power this November?” — MSNBC’s Hardball, 9/7

Dumb and Dumber Award

“In Scott Brown, we have an irresponsible, homophobic, racist, reactionary, ex-nude model, teabagging supporter of violence against women and against politicians with whom he disagrees. In any other time in our history, this man would have been laughed off the stage as unqualified and a disaster in the making by the most conservative of conservatives.”

— MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann, 1/18

Hazing Arizona Award

“I’m glad I’ve already seen the Grand Canyon. Because I’m not going back to Arizona as long as it remains a police state....Everyone remembers the wartime Danish king who drove through Copenhagen wearing a Star of David in support of his Jewish subjects [during the Nazi occupation]. It’s an apocryphal story, actually, but an inspiring one. Let the good...
people of Arizona — and anyone passing through — walk the streets of Tucson and Phoenix wearing buttons that say: ‘I Could Be Illegal.’” — Ex-NYT reporter Linda Greenhouse, 4/27

**Half-Baked Alaska Award**

“I think it’s probably a lesson for the American people of the power Palin has to incite hatred and her willingness and readiness to do it. She has pushed a button and unleashed the Hounds of Hell, and now that they’re out there slavering and barking and growling. And that’s the same kind of tactic — and I’m not calling her a Nazi — but that’s the same kind of tactic that the Nazi troopers used in Germany in the ’30s. And I don’t think there is any place for it in America.”

— Author Joe McGinniss on NBC’s Today, 6/1

**Crush Rush Award**

“What was the more likely cause of the Oklahoma City bombing: talk radio or Bill Clinton and Janet Reno’s hands-on management of Waco, the Branch Davidian compound?... Obviously, the answer is talk radio. Specifically Rush Limbaugh’s hate radio....Frankly, Rush, you have that blood on your hands now and you have had it for 15 years.” — MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann, 4/19

**Barbra Streisand Political IQ Award**

“Hitler, by the way, never got more than 33 percent of the vote ever in Germany....He wasn’t a majority guy, but he was charismatic, and they were having bad economic times — just like we are now. People were out of work, they needed jobs, and a guy came along and rallied the troops. My fear is that the Tea Party gets a charismatic leader, because all they’re selling is fear and anger and that’s all Hitler sold: ‘I’m angry and I’m frightened and you should hate that guy over there.’” — Director Rob Reiner on HBO’s Real Time, 10/22

**Audacity of Dopes Award**

“Well, we’re almost here, aren’t we? The end of a long, arduous, four-month campaign for a Senate seat that you [Scott Brown] have approximately the same chance of filling as you did the pilot’s chair of the Starship Enterprise....The notion that Massachusetts would elect a Republican to fill the seat left vacant by Edward Kennedy was the property of people who buy interesting mushrooms in interesting places. You might as well expect the House of Windsor to be succeeded on the British throne by the Kardashian sisters.” — Boston Globe Magazine’s Charles Pierce, 1/10

**Ground Zerocs Award**

ABC’s Christiane Amanpour: “So, Gary Bauer, as you know, a series of politicians have used the Islamic center [near Ground Zero], have used sort of Islamophobia and scare tactics in their campaigns....My question is do you take any — after some of the loaded things that have been said, and we can play you any number of tapes, Mr. Bauer. Do you take any responsibility at all for, for instance, what happened in Murfreesboro [Tennessee, where a mosque was vandalized]?”


Amanpour: “You don’t think the rhetoric lays the groundwork for others?” — ABC’s This Week, 10/3
L. Brent Bozell III • January 5, 2011 • Nationally Syndicated Column

War In the Mideast -- On Christians

Our national media elite reviewed 2010 with great sorrow for how America has besmirched itself in the eyes of the world with its “seething hatred” of Muslims. CBS anchor Katie Couric announced on her Internet show that there wasn’t enough evaluation of “this bigotry toward 1.5 billion Muslims worldwide” which was “so misguided, and so wrong — and so disappointing.”

Couric even embarrassed herself by suggesting “Maybe we need a Muslim version of The Cosby Show.” A ridiculous idea — unless it were to run every night instead of Couric’s lame half-hour “news” report.

While Katie crinkles her face that anyone could march peacefully to oppose a mega-mosque two blocks from Ground Zero, here’s what does not upset Couric or her colleagues: Christians getting slaughtered and maimed in the Middle East by radical Islamists during the Christmas season. That story rates barely a media eyebrow lift.

On Christmas Eve in Nigeria, AP reported that Danjuma Akawu, secretary of Victory Baptist Church in the city of Maidiguri, charged that a mob of about 30 men attacked his church on Christmas Eve, killing five people, including the pastor, two choir members rehearsing for a late-night carol service and two passersby. He said the attackers came in three cars and dragged the pastor out of his house before shooting him to death. They drove off after setting the church and pastor’s house on fire. On the other end of the same city, a security guard was shot and killed at a Church of Christ.

Network coverage? Katie Couric’s CBS aired nothing. Neither did ABC. NBC arrived on the story with three anchor briefs on the morning of December 27. PBS had one NewsHour mention that night. That’s it.

In the first minutes of the new year in Alexandria, Egypt, an explosion ripped through a throng of worshipers shortly after services ended outside of a Coptic Christian church, slaughtering at least 21 people and wounding another 96. An eyewitness described the debris on the street: “Hands, legs, stomachs. Girls, women and men.”

Network coverage? ABC aired nothing. CBS and NBC each aired one brief anchor read. Some might say terror attacks in Africa with these “low” numbers of deaths are hardly a major news story, especially for TV networks that sparsely cover the globe. But when eight American tourists died in a bus crash in Egypt, CBS and NBC each aired full stories and NBC interviewed an American survivor on December 27. So it’s not an issue of sparse resources.

And how many Muslims have been killed — or injured, or had their feelings hurt — at the Ground Zero mosque protests?

This is a pattern. On Halloween, 58 were killed at a Catholic church in Baghdad, as Islamic radicals took church members hostage during Mass and executed the priests. ABC, CBS, and NBC aired little anchor briefs, yet managed to put the weight of scrutiny on Iraqi government forces for attempting to storm the church and defeat the radicals.

On New Year’s Eve, The New York Times reported from Baghdad on a cluster of 10 bomb attacks in which two people were killed and 20 wounded, all of them Christians. One week after an Islamic extremist group vowed to kill Christians in Iraq, the bombs were placed near the homes of at least 14 Christian families around the city. The networks didn’t find that compelling, either.

But ABC, CBS, and NBC combined to air 52 stories in one month — just on the evening newscasts – on the Ground Zero mega-mosque project.

Despite their cachet as world-news aficionados, taxpayer-funded National Public Radio couldn’t locate news from Nigeria or Egypt as Christians were targeted and killed.

NPR did find time for a story on how Israel’s immigration policies as Africans poured over the border from Egypt were violating human rights. NPR’s Nina Totenberg found the opportunity to apologize on PBS for using the term “Christmas party.”

NPR finally caught up a bit on January 3, when evening anchor Robert Siegel talked to Los Angeles Times reporter Borzou Daragahi about the church attack in Egypt. He asked: “Are Christians a new front for Islamist militants in the region?” Daragahi replied that “increasingly, it does seem that way. And, you know, you had the Christmas Eve bombings in Nigeria, you’ve had these attacks, constant attacks, really, stepping up recently on Iraqi Christians in Mosul, in Baghdad. And there does seem to be this concerted campaign to target this very vulnerable, dwindling community.” The reporter concluded “it’s considered a tragedy that this community is being whittled down.”

It’s “considered” a tragedy? The American media’s coverage of this religious war underlines their own distance from the story, and how they’re somehow much more upset that some no-name, meaningless rabble-rouser in Florida became globally famous for threatening to burn one Koran in a trash can.
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, Jan. 13
- FNC: Fox & Friends, Dec. 20, Jan. 7
- Fox NewsWatch, Dec. 18
- Hannity, Jan. 6, 13
- Special Report, Dec. 21

**Radio**
- America’s Morning News, Dec. 30
- American Family Radio, Dec. 29, Jan. 5
- Cable Radio Network, Dec. 30, Jan. 10
- Coral Ridge Ministries, Dec. 20
- Focus on the Family, Dec. 30
- G. Gordon Liddy, Jan. 4
- Georgia News Network, Jan. 4
- NRA News, Jan. 7
- USA Radio Network, Dec. 23
- KFAB, Omaha, NE, Jan. 10
- KFKA, Colorado Springs, CO, Jan. 3, 6
- KLPW, St. Louis, MO, Jan. 4
- KPRZ, San Diego, CA, Jan. 7
- KXYL, Brownwood, TX, Jan. 14
- WBAL, Baltimore, MD, Dec. 20
- WBT, Charlotte, NC, Jan. 8
- WDRC, Hartford, CT, Jan. 3, 4
- WIBC, Indianapolis, IN, Jan. 5
- WKRC, Cincinnati, OH, Jan. 4
- WTAD, Quincy, IL, Dec. 28
- WTAN, Clearwater, FL, Dec. 22
- WZIM, Lacrosse, WI, Jan. 4, 6
- WCCO, Minneapolis, MN, Dec. 22

**Print**
- Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Dec. 27, Jan. 3
- Tucson Citizen, Jan. 2
- Arizona Republican, Jan. 4
- Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 4
- Los Angeles Times, Jan. 6
- Canada Free Press, Jan. 7
- World Magazine, Jan. 15
- New York Post, Dec. 13
- Washington Times, Dec. 20
- Washington Post, Dec. 22
- Investor’s Business Daily, Dec. 23
- Human Events, Dec. 23

**Internet**
- AOL Politics Daily, Dec. 29
- Big Journalism, Dec. 23
- Christian News Today, Dec. 21
- Drudge Report Dec. 14, 16, 20, 29, Jan. 6, 7, 9
- E! Online, Dec. 29
- Examiner.com, Dec. 29
- FoxNews.com, Dec. 20, 23
- GOPUSA, Jan. 4
- LifeNews.com, Dec. 31, Jan. 7
- Mediabistro, Dec. 22
- National Interest Online, Dec. 16
- OneNewsNow.com, Jan. 7
- RealNews blog, Jan. 6
- San Francisco Chronicle blog, Jan. 4
- Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 4
- Slate.com, Jan. 7
- The Hill blog, Dec. 14
- TownHall.com, Dec. 16
- U.S. News & World Report blog, Dec. 22
- Waterbury Republican-American, Dec. 31
- WorldNetDaily, Jan. 6

~ PARTIAL LISTING ~

**Media Research Center’s 2011 Gala**

**Featuring the DisHonors Awards**

**May 7, 2011**

**National Building Museum**
401 F Street NW, Washington, DC
7:30 PM

For ticket information, please visit www.MRC.org/Gala or contact Jamie Sullivan at 800-672-1423 or jsullivan@mrc.org.

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Rate: $229/night, Cut-off to book: April 5, 2011
Mention MRC when booking

~ PARTIAL LISTING ~
MRC LEGACY SOCIETY

“I didn’t like the direction the country is headed and realized the media played a major role in putting us on the wrong track. The Media Research Center is the only organization capable of fighting the liberal media and I wanted to make sure they continue to have the resources necessary to continue the fight for years to come.”

— Media Research Center Legacy Society Chairman Joe Wilkens

By September of 2009, Joe Wilkens had had enough. As a retired small business owner, he saw that the America that he had grown up believing in, the America that celebrated free enterprise and individualism, the America that allowed his business to grow and thrive, was under attack. Even worse: the attack came from within.

For decades, Joe had watched as the Left captured the universities, Hollywood, the media, Congress, and finally, the White House. He watched as the liberal media did everything in their power to help Congress and the President shove a hard-Left agenda down the throats of an American populace that was screaming “Stop!” at the top of its lungs. Joe knew he needed to do something to roll back the socialist tide. He’d been supporting the MRC for a decade with an annual $100 gift, but now he knew wanted to do something more.

In September of 2009, Joe called the Media Research Center and offered to set up a $50,000 Charitable Gift Annuity. He explained that he knew the fight against the Left is one that will last decades, that every issue conservatives care about is affected by liberal media bias, and that the MRC was the only organization capable of taking the media on - and neutralizing them.

In 2010, Joe stepped up his annual support and contributed $2,500 and in August of 2010 he set up a second $40,000 CGA. In December of 2010, Brent asked Joe to become the first Chairman of the MRC's new Legacy Society, and Joe accepted.

You don’t have to be a millionaire to join Joe as a member of the MRC’s Legacy Society. Legacy Society members have included us in their estates — bequests, CGAs etc — for as little as $5,000, as much as $1,000,000 and everywhere in between.

In addition to the knowledge that their gift will help the MRC continue fighting for decades to come, Legacy Society Members receive complimentary invitations to, as well as recognition at, MRC events and will receive special updates from MRC Founder and President Brent Bozell III along with other members of the MRC team.

If you’re interested in learning how you can join the MRC’s Legacy Society, please call James Nolan at (703) 302-8325.