Leftist Media Bury the Truth About ObamaCare

ObamaCare is an absolute disaster. Millions of Americans have lost the good insurance they once had; companies are firing or not hiring people, or trimming hours because they can’t afford the mandates. No, you can’t keep your doctor; physicians aren’t accepting “any new patients”; people with cancer, AIDS, and other ills are finding they aren’t covered; and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) is bluntly lying when he rails that ObamaCare “horror stories” are all “untrue.”

The liberal media, meanwhile, whistle past the graveyard. They are censoring the truth about ObamaCare because it is an election year and because it is the signature “achievement” of President Obama, the Alinsky-socialist they adore. They too want socialized medicine.

If George W. Bush or Ronald Reagan were the architect of this healthcare fiasco, the leftist news media would pound the story around-the-clock, Michael Moore would produce a documentary, and the networks would show footage of funerals and blame a “conservative” White House.

The censorship, spin, bias, and distortions by the liberal media to protect ObamaCare are legion, as a new analysis by the Media Research Center documents. From January 1 through March 24, for instance, the evening news shows at ABC, CBS, and NBC broadcast a paltry 31 minutes and 20 seconds of coverage on ObamaCare.

Over three months, the networks ran only 12 full stories on the health care law. The NBC Nightly News ran just one complete report, largely laudatory, with anchor Lester Holt proclaiming “a new era of health care in this country.”

ABC’s, CBS, and NBC combined spent less than 1% of their total broadcast time covering ObamaCare in the first three months of 2014. ABC’s, CBS Evening News gave the topic only 6 minutes, 58 seconds of coverage; CBS Evening News, 19 minutes, 21 seconds. That coverage, in full, was only 0.7% of the total evening network news time from January through March. Eighty-three days and the networks spent less than 1% of their time reporting on ObamaCare.

That’s not bias, that’s censorship: burying the truth. Let’s look at some other examples.

On Feb. 21, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released a report showing that 65% of small businesses would see their health insurance premiums go up under ObamaCare. ABC, CBS, and NBC ignored the story.
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On Feb. 26, Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) flat-out lied, ranting, “There’s plenty of horror stories being told. All of them are untrue. ... Stories made up form whole cloth. Lies distorted by Republicans to grab headlines or make political advertisements.” Neither ABC, CBS, nor NBC reported Reid’s incredible claim, nor did they correct his lies.

Polls show strong opposition to ObamaCare by a majority of Americans but the networks are silent. NBC’s own pollsters found 49% of adults opposed ObamaCare vs. 35% who supported it. But the NBC Nightly News didn’t report its own poll!

The Congressional Budget Office issued a report on Feb. 4 about how ObamaCare would kill 2 million full-time jobs. ABC, CBS, and NBC spun it. CBS’s Scott Pelley echoed the White House saying, “We got a report today about ObamaCare that was both surprising and widely misunderstood. Those aren’t necessarily jobs being lost. They’re also workers choosing to work less.”

The propaganda line was that the “Affordable” Care Act would make it “affordable” for people to work less. The North Korea press office could have done better than that.

When the White House decided to unilaterally extend the deadline by two years for certain businesses to comply with all the law’s mandates, NBC’s Brian Williams obediently spun the news as the president keeping his promise, “if you like your health care plan, you can keep it.” Where Obama got the authority to unilaterally change the law the networks never asked.

The administration had claimed that by early January it needed 18-to-34-year-olds to comprise 40% of ObamaCare enrollees to help provide the financing for the older and sicker people in the program. That age group made up only 24% by mid-January, a point that ABC and NBC did not report; CBS gave the revelation only 19 seconds.

Then there are the real victims of ObamaCare, millions of them.

An Iowa pastor, as covered by a local CBS affiliate, has ObamaCare insurance but was told minutes before receiving life-saving chemo that his treatments wouldn’t be covered. His family has since depleted their savings of $50,000 to pay for his care. “There’s no compassion in the Affordable Care Act,” said the pastor. ABC, CBS, and NBC reported zip.

A 62-year-old Las Vegas man signed up for ObamaCare in November 2013 and then had a heart attack in December. He now owes $407,000 for treatment because his policy was not put into effect for treatment he got in January and February of this year. No national news coverage.

Josie Gracchi has breast cancer and had insurance but because her policy was rolled into an ObamaCare health exchange, she lost the surgeons who had been working with her and her biopsy and treatment have been postponed. Gracchi went on Fox News and pleaded for help from President Obama. ABC, NBC, and CBS haven’t touched the story.

When Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law, Vice President Joe Biden whispered, this is a “big f---ing deal.” Tragically, for millions of Americans, the colossal failure of ObamaCare is a “big f---ing deal.” As is the liberal media cover-up.

The MRC, however, is fighting back: documenting, exposing, and neutralizing that left-wing media bias, and presenting the truth to the American people. You can help us in this good fight by becoming a member of the Media Research Center. Visit our website, www.MRC.org, or call us today at 571-267-3500. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
About 3 million Americans of Hispanic background get their news every day from the Spanish-language news outlets Univision and Telemundo, which are grossly biased to the left, as a new MRC Special Report documents.

To combat that bias and bring some balance to the Spanish-language media, the MRC launched MRC Latino on April 1, a new division that will utilize all MRC platforms — NewsBusters, CNSNews.com, BMI, CMI, the News Analysis Division, Facebook and Twitter — to hold Univision and Telemundo accountable.

The launch at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., included remarks from Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky), MRC President Brent Bozell, MRC Latino Director Ken Oliver-Mendez, a videotaped message from Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), and other experts on the Spanish-language media.

In reference to the MRC report, *Hispanic Media in the Balance: How Univision and Telemundo News Coverage Favors Liberals and What Needs to be Done to Correct It*, Brent Bozell said, “As of now, Telemundo and Univision are failing to live up to the most basic journalistic standard — report the news without a pervasive partisan slant.”

* Pro-ObamaCare advocates were featured five-to-one (116-24) over critics of ObamaCare. The IRS-Tea Party scandal and Benghazi investigation were not mentioned once in the entire 4 months of evening news broadcasts.

“As it stands now, Democratic, left-leaning sources consistently dominate the narrative in these networks’ coverage of domestic issues,” said Oliver-Mendez, who added that international stories were more balanced on Telemundo and Univision.

Senator Paul talked about how conservatives needed to work harder at getting their message into the Spanish-language media. “There is a bias in the media, and it is good we monitor and check the media,” he said. “But we need to acknowledge our own faults in getting our message out.”

Senator Rubio said the launch of MRC Latino is “not only a testimony to the work of Brent Bozell, but also promises to be the beginning of a new stage in which we as conservatives communicate more effectively through the Hispanic media.” It is a “very promising” enterprise, he said, stressing that it will “help to promote the participation of more conservative leaders in these media” and show that “conservative values are what can help our people get ahead and achieve a better future for themselves, their children and their grandchildren.”

To read the MRC Latino Special Report, please visit www.mrc.org.

Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) and MRC President Brent Bozell discuss liberal bias in the Spanish-language media and take questions from the audience at the launch of MRC Latino at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

“The question is not whether you have a bias but whether you can keep that bias in check,” he continued. “You do that by incorporating balance into your work. Right now, the latino media aren’t even close to achieving balance.”

The Special Report by Ken Oliver-Mendez and MRC Research Director Rich Noyes analyzed nearly 1,000 evening news stories by Univision and Telemundo, from Nov. 1, 2013 through Feb. 28, 2014. Among its findings were the following:

* Out of 667 stories on domestic issues, more than six times as many tilted left (300) than right (43) — the other 324 were neutral.
* Democrats and left-wingers were quoted three times more often (1,011) than Republicans or conservatives (370).
Pro-Traditional Marriage = KKK

*Business Insider’s* Jim Edwards and Slate.com’s Will Oremus cheered the ouster of Mozilla CEO Brendan Eich, equating his opposition to homosexual “marriage” to being against civil rights for blacks. On BBC’s *World Have Your Say*, Apr. 4, Edwards slammed Eich’s donation to Prop 8, railing, “An analogy would be if this guy had donated some money to the KKK, and was then meeting with a company run by a black CEO. It’s beyond the pale. … What if Brendan Eich’s position had been, I want the civil right to own slaves?”

Not to be outdone, Slate’s Oremus fumed, “What people are saying is that being against equal rights for gay people is not okay … in the way that it’s not okay to be against interracial marriage, or to be an anti-Semite, or to be a Nazi. … This is the civil rights issue of our time.” In other words, if you oppose gay “marriage,” you’re like a Nazi.

Shoe-Throwing Bias

Liberal media bias is as obvious as the shoes on your feet. The day after a protestor threw a shoe at Hillary Clinton during a speech, NBC Today’s Tamron Hall cringed, “I mean, but how scary is that? Had it hit her, that would have been awful. It would have been awful.” Weatherman Al Roker then commented, “Jeez, that’s frightening,” and Hall chimed in again, “It’s hard for me to watch, actually.” Over at ABC, George Stephanopoulos fretted, “That was a scary moment there for a second.”

But when an Iraqi journalist threw a shoe at President George W. Bush in 2008, he was hailed as a hero by the liberal media. At the time, both ABC and CBS cheered the shoe-thrower as a “celebrity” and “folk hero” who “thrilled the Arab world.” In 2009, MSNBC’s David Shuster cheered the release of the shoe-thrower from prison.

Climate Hype

NBC pulled out all the stops to promote its Apr. 6 left-wing propaganda special on global warming, *Our Year of Extremes: Did Climate Change Just Hit Home*? On NBC Today, Natalie Morales lectured that a World Bank official was warning “climate change will lead to violent conflict over shortages of food and water,” and “NBC’s Ann Curry shows us how ordinary people are already witnessing the impact of rising global temperatures.”

In the preview for the show, Curry proclaimed, “It feels like an all-out assault. For the last year and a half, it seems nature has thrown everything at us. What on Earth is going on? … [We’re] searching for answers to what’s causing these weather extremes.” On the NBC website, it uncritically claimed “there is virtually no debate among climate scientists: 97% now believe climate change is real and the warming is largely caused by human activity.” Curry is the same reporter who, in 2007, pedaled a bike to power a blender, raving, “You see, you can save the environment! It is possible!”
Teaching Jesus?

Although Fox’s Bill O’Reilly, author of the best-selling book *Killing Jesus*, explained that America is founded upon Judeo-Christian tradition and law, NBC’s Matt Lauer wouldn’t concede that historical fact and kept harping on why kids should not be taught about Jesus. On the Apr. 10 Today show, interviewing O’Reilly, Lauer whined, “In public schools these days, you go sit in one of those classes and you’re surrounded by kids of four or five, six different faiths. Why should they sit there and listen to the story of Jesus Christ?”

O’Reilly explained that Jesus is the most important man in history and Christian beliefs helped shape America. Lauer fired back, “How do you draw the line and the balance between someone who would go into a classroom, a teacher, and teach the historical story, as opposed to imposing religious beliefs? Who enforces that?”

O’Reilly said “no proselytizing,” and emphasized teachers being professionals. But Lauer, alas, couldn’t understand that and kept shaking his head.

Nightline Ignores ObamaCare 140 Days

As of Apr. 3, ABC’s Nightline had not reported on ObamaCare for 140 days, almost 5 months of no coverage, despite ongoing enrollment problems, people losing their health insurance, and flat-out distortions and lies about how many Americans had signed up. Open enrollment in ObamaCare, President Obama’s signature legislation, ended on Apr. 1 but Nightline said … nothing.

Instead, Nightline reported on the “model factory” in Brazil, complete with much coverage of curvy women in skimpy clothing. Back on Mar. 17, the program also did some hard news analysis of “bootleg butt injections.” On Apr. 2, Nightline looked at knockoff beauty products, stressing “do you know what you’re buying?” Nightline was started during the Iranian hostage crisis in 1980 to inform worried Americans, but now the program is a tabloid-obsessed imitation of Access Hollywood. Ted Koppel, call your office.

Minibits

- MSNBC’s Joy Reid plays the anti-Catholic card on the Hobby Lobby contraceptive case, “The Court that will decide includes six Catholic justices — some of whom have not been shy about asserting their religion. The question is, do you trust this Court to make those decisions?”
- CNN’s Roland Martin says America can’t criticize Putin over Ukraine “because, frankly, overthrowing countries is what America has been really, really, really good at.”
- CBS’s Anthony Mason fawns, “President Obama, an avid college basketball fan, unveiled his choices for this year’s Final Four. Some call his pick Barackatology.”
- Interviewing Anita Hill, ABC’s Barbara Walters reveals her bias, “I would just like to say that I’m honored to be meeting you. I watched those hearings as did so many other people. And to so many of us, you were our heroine.”
- Ellen DeGeneres stumps for Obamacare during her daytime talk show, “An enormous number of people have signed up, so it’s successful. … And I think it is important for people to sign up. It’s just better to be covered. You just never know.”
- CNN’s Chris Cuomo analyzes the GOP, “Obstructionism is just the name of the game for the Republican Party right now. And, obviously, that’s not leading to any meaningful progress. The dialogue is so toxic, because that’s all they have is the talk now, because they’re not doing anything.”
- CNN’s Don Lemon, a real news anchor, actually said this of the missing Malaysia airplane, “What if it was something fully that we don’t really understand? A lot of people have been asking about that, about black holes and on and on and on. I know it’s preposterous, but is it preposterous?”
NOEL SHEPPARD (1960-2014)

Not Just a Force of Nature, But a Very Good Man

Noel Sheppard, the most prolific and popular blogger at NewsBusters, and a long-time friend and contributor to the MRC, passed away on Mar. 28 from cancer. He was 54. Our prayers go out to his wife, his two children, and to his extended family.

Noel, as Brent Bozell remarked upon learning of his death, “was not just a force of nature, he was a very good man.”

He sold his estate planning business and joined NewsBusters as associate editor in 2005, a mid-life career change. From there, his sharp, articulate, and always ahead-of-the-curve conservative analysis and commentary took off.

Noel caught so much liberal media bias and wrote about it so quickly and powerfully that his posts often affected the national media conversation. As Fox’s Megyn Kelly said, “I was a personal fan of his, I read him a lot, I really respected him.”

Noel was the first, for example, to write about then-MSNBC Martin Bashir’s disgraceful attack on Sarah Palin, a filthy proposal that led to Bashir’s removal from the network. Noel was also the first to write about actor Jamie Foxx referring to the president as “our Lord and savior, Barack Obama,” a blog that generated 1.1 million pageviews.

In Al Gore’s movie, An Inconvenient Truth, footage of ice shelves collapsing in Antarctica was actually fictional, generated by a computer. Noel caught that, posted it, and it was picked up by The Drudge Report and by Rush Limbaugh. Noel was also the first to post on ABC’s Barbara Walters saying of Obama in 2008, “we thought he was going to be the next Messiah.”

He frequently appeared on CNN and Glenn Beck, and Noel interviewed VIPs at the Republican National Convention. One of his favorite catches was a face-to-face with Geraldo Rivera.

When Noel died, only two months after his diagnosis, the condolences poured in. Sarah Palin tweeted, “Our prayers are with Noel Sheppard’s family. He was a fighter for truth who will be greatly missed.”

Other kind words were uttered by Mark Levin, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.), Fox’s Monica Crowley, and RedState’s Erick Erickson.

Rest in peace, Noel.
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**

- **CNBC:** Kudlow Report, Mar. 25
- **Comedy Central:** Daily Show, Apr. 8
- **FBN:** Varney & Co., Mar. 31
- **FNC:** Fox & Friends, Mar. 26
- **Real Story with Gretchen Carlson, Mar. 26, Apr. 10, 16
- **The Five, Mar. 27
- **The Kelly File, Mar. 27, 31, Apr. 11, 1, 12, 18**

**Print**

- Associated Press, Apr. 1
- **Investor’s Business Daily, Apr. 2**
- **Los Angeles Times, Apr. 9**
- **National Review, Apr. 3**
- **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Apr. 10**
- **Washington Post, Apr. 4**
- **Washington Times, Mar. 26, 31**
- **PARTIAL LISTING**

**Internet & Twitter**

- American Thinker, Mar. 30, 31, Apr. 1
- Bookworm Room, Apr. 9
- Breitbart.com, Mar. 29, Apr. 1, 2, 9
- Christian Post, Apr. 2
- **CNN.com, Apr. 1**
- Daily Caller, Mar. 25, 29, Apr. 1, 4, 16
- Daily Kos, Mar. 29, Apr. 7
- **Drudge Report, Mar. 31, Apr. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 21, 22**
- Fox Nation, Mar. 29, Apr. 2, 6
- Fox News Latino, Apr. 1, 9
- FoxNews.com, Apr. 4, 6, 7, 8, 10
- Guardian Liberty Voice, Mar. 24
- Heritage blog, Mar. 31
- HotAir.com, Mar. 30, Apr. 2, 4, 5, 11, 17
- Huffington Post, Apr. 2
- La Opinion, Apr. 1
- Latin Post, Apr. 8
- Latin Times, Apr. 1, 9
- Legal Insurrection, Mar. 29
- Mail Online, Apr. 8
- Mediate, Apr. 2
- MichelleMalkin.com, Apr. 2
- **National Center blog, Mar. 29**
- **National Review Online, Mar. 22**
- NBC News.com, Apr. 1
- Newsmax, Mar. 31, Apr. 1
- NPR News, Apr. 1
- OneAmericaNews, Apr. 2
- Opposing Views, Apr. 3
- Patriot Post, Apr. 8
- PJ Media, Mar. 22, 30, 31, Apr. 4
- Politico, Mar. 31, Apr. 1
- Real Clear Politics, Apr. 4
- RedState, Apr. 11
- The Blaze.com, Mar. 29, Apr. 5, 10, 17
- Townhall.com, Mar. 28
- Twitchy, Mar. 29
- **U.S. Finance Post, Apr. 1**
- Washington Examiner, Mar. 31, Apr. 1
- Washington Free Beacon, Apr. 1, 3
- WND.com, Mar. 27, Apr. 6
- World News Group, Apr. 8
- cwfadora, Apr. 2
- foramerica, Mar. 28, Apr. 10, 11
- heritage, Apr. 2
- ingraramangle, Mar. 27
- @students4lifehq, Apr. 10, 11
- **PARTIAL LISTING**
I’ve been a monthly donor since 2010. Brent said that getting an automatic contribution from me every month would make the MRC more effective by putting more of my money into fighting the left-wing’s control of the Big Media. And that’s what I want! I personally urge you to join the Patriot Fund because it will empower the MRC to work much more effectively for our goal. And another plus is that I don’t have to remember to send a check each month.”

ELAYNE MCCORMACK
MRC ASSOCIATE AND MEMBER OF THE MRC PATRIOT CLUB

For information regarding the MRC’s Patriot Fund, please contact Marissa Caligiuri, MRC’s Monthly Giving Associate at (571) 267-3452 or send an email to her at mcaligiuri@mrc.org

The MRC’s Culture & Media Institute Exposes AP’s False Report on Conservatives Cruz, Lee — Forces AP Correction

The Associated Press falsely reported what conservative Senators Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) said about abortion but thanks to the MRC’s Culture and Media Institute (CMI), which had the senators on video, the leftist news service was forced to run a correction. It’s a prime example of why the MRC exists and why its work is so important.

On Mar. 12, both Cruz and Lee spoke at a summit held by the pro-life Susan B. Anthony List. In his talk, Cruz accurately stated that “pro-abortion protestors began chanting ‘Hail, Satan,’” at the Texas State House last summer in a counter-protest against pro-lifers. In his remarks, Sen. Lee said that “pro-choice” is a “euphemism that overlooks the kind of savage butchery that they advocate.”

But in the AP story by Philip Elliot, the lead sentence falsely claimed, “Calling their opponents Satan worshippers and savages,” and later the story misreported Lee as saying abortion-rights supporters “engage in savagery.”

Outlets such as the Washington Post, Huffington Post, and Dallas Morning News ran the false AP story. The Dallas Morning News also ran this inaccurate headline: “Ted Cruz likens abortion rights backers to satanists in appearance.”

All of that was a lie, a smear against two of the leading conservatives in the U.S. Senate. Fortunately, CMI’s own Kristine Marsh and Katie Yoder were at the SBA List event with a video camera. They quickly wrote a story overnight, with the help of CMI Managing Editor Matt Philbin, complete with video clips of the senators and screen captures of the false AP report.

That rapid response forced AP to issue a correction. In an e-mail to the MRC, Cruz’s press secretary, Catherina Frazier, said, “You all were instrumental in setting the record straight and shining a light on the truth when many outlets showed little regard for accurate reporting. Many thanks for the work you do to hold our friends in the media accountable!”