Like Sarah Palin, Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.) is a strong, conservative leader. She knows the issues well and she doesn’t flinch when attacked by her enemies.

She is a complete contradiction of the liberal narrative of women, just like Clarence Thomas is a contradiction of the liberal ethos about black men. Hence, as they still do to Thomas and Palin, the liberal media relentlessly attack and smear Bachmann, and they will never stop.

And now that she’s running for president, the attacks are relentless.

Character assassination is the solution for the liberal media when it comes to conservatives. As we have predicted and documented at the Media Research Center, the liberal media will tar conservatives to no end, do whatever it takes to neutralize their influence, especially in the political arena. Truth, honor, professionalism — none of this matters.

With Bachmann, the journalistic assaults are more vicious than anything we’ve seen in the past. The liberal media are in a frenzy, saying anything to cut her down and kill her effectiveness. Let’s look at some of the most outrageous examples of media bias against this female conservative who dares to challenge liberalism and its quasi-god Barack Obama. Ask yourself if you’ve ever seen anything close to this when it comes to liberals.

Back in spring 2010, as Tea Party-backed candidates were gearing up for the fall’s elections, left-wing radio host Mike Malloy railed, “You know Michelle Bachmann, this fruitcake from — no, that gives fruitcakes a bad name — this half-ass, this half-wit, this jerk-wad from Minnesota.”

Then, after criticizing the Christian-based health clinic that Bachmann’s husband operates for accepting Medicaid patients, Malloy fired again at Michele: “You phony-ass broad! … Skank!”

The liberal media said nothing about Malloy’s foul remarks. Nor did they say a word when HBO’s Bill Maher, around the same time, said that Republican Party men “look on Michele Bachmann and Sarah Palin as, you know, MILFs. And I agree — they’re morons I’d like to forget.” (MILF actually stands for Mothers I’d Like to F---.)

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On election night 2010, MSNBC’s Chris Matthews interviewed Bachmann but didn’t like what he was hearing, so he said, “Congresswoman Bachmann, are you hypnotized tonight? Has someone hypnotized you? Because no matter what I ask you, you give the
same answer. Has someone put you in a trance tonight?”

Does anyone seriously think that Matthews would ever say that to a liberal member of Congress?

The next day, Matthews’ MSNBC colleague Ed Schultz barked, “And psycho-talk sister Michele Bachmann, well, she brought crazy to a new level on our network last night talking to Chris Matthews.

Around the same time, the Minneapolis City Pages was reporting that Bachmann “keeps on spouting batshit craziness,” while the online Daily Beast (now partners with Newsweek), called Bachmann “a bomb-throwing provocateur generally regarded as too extreme to be taken seriously.”

Then in January 2011, Chris Matthews labeled Bachmann a “balloon head” who didn’t merit being on the national stage and needed to “go home to grade school.”

On HBO’s Real Time with Bill Maher, left-wing actress Janeane Garafolo ranted that Tea Party people are “clearly white power movements” being “led by the Glenn Becks, the Michelle Bachmanns, the Rush Limbaughs.”

Since Bachmann announced she was running for president, the liberal media attacks, as documented by the MRC, have escalated.

On June 28, ABC World News went after her. Reporter Jonathan Karl described Michele as “a fringe candidate,” and told her, “Mike Murphy, a Republican strategist, said that you have a better chance of landing on Jupiter than becoming president.”

ABC never said anything like that to the unknown and less-experienced Barack Obama in 2008.

The Washington Post ran a hit piece on Bachmann on July 6, written by Jason Horowitz. In that set up, Horowitz provided details about Marcus Bachmann’s clinic that, among other things, counsels homosexuals who want to leave that deathstyle.

Because going straight is a no-no for liberals, Horowitz painted Michele as a Christian zealot on an anti-gay crusade. He mocked the clinic’s therapy as “praying away the gay.” He also implied that only ignorant hillbillies are opposed to the joys of sodomy.

From that smear, an army of liberal media re-reported the story ad nauseum, as if they’d ID’d the man on the grassy knoll. I put out a press release on July 12, stating, “The broadcast networks are guilty of giving undeserved credibility and attention to a story that is stupid and silly.

“This Bachmann hit piece was reported by ABC World News and ABC’s Nightline last night and perpetuated by ABC’s Good Morning America and NBC’s Today show this morning. It’s nothing more than a swipe at a leading conservative presidential candidate by an anti-Christian gay activist, but the media’s overreaction has made the clinic out to be guilty of a crime.

“How can we rely on these networks to bring us actual news when they cannot even function as proper investigative journalists, instead opting to highlight stupid attacks on conservative presidential candidates?”

The bottom line is we can’t rely on them. When it comes to conservatives, the liberal strategy is character assassination — to smear, belittle, discredit, destroy. All conservatives, not just Bachmann, will be treated this way.

Recall that Sarah Palin was dismissed by CBS’s Bob Scheiffer as “an amusement.” And the fake conservative David Brooks maligned her, telling ABC’s This Week, “She’s a joke. I mean, I just can’t take her seriously.”

As we go to press, Bachmann is running second in most polls. Some “joke.”

The liberal media can’t and won’t take conservatives seriously, which is why we diligently labor to document, expose, and neutralize their bias. We expose the lies and present the truth through our various divisions: NAD, BMI, NewsBusters, TimesWatch, MRC TV and CNSNews.com. And we never hold our ground. We are always moving forward, taking the fight to the enemy, for that is the way to win. We will never give in.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
MRC to NBC:

Fire Employees Who Removed ‘Under God’ From the Pledge of Allegiance

The Media Research Center has called upon NBC to fire the bigoted employees who removed the words “under God” from a video of children reciting the Pledge of Allegiance that was broadcast at the opening of the U.S. Open Golf Championship on June 19.

The Pledge clip — minus the words “under God” — was actually aired twice at the beginning of the program. Right after the outrage happened, countless Americans called into their local NBC affiliates to complain and also expressed their disgust at the network’s anti-God editing by posting comments on Facebook and Twitter.

Three hours later in the program, NBC lamely tried to apologize with host Dan Hicks stating, “Regrettably, a portion of the Pledge of Allegiance that was in that feature was edited out. It was not done to upset anyone, and we’d like to apologize to those of you who were offended by it.”

Yet Hicks and NBC didn’t tell viewers what portion was omitted (“under God”), making the apology meaningless.

The MRC responded quickly with a statement from Vice President for Business & Culture Dan Gainor, who said, “NBC has unquestionably committed an act of religious bigotry designed to offend Christians,” and this action “was absolutely not accidental. It was brazenly deliberate.”

“Either NBC identifies and fires the employee or employees responsible for this act or the network is guilty of deliberately giving aid and comfort to religious bigots,” said Gainor.

“The Media Research Center will be sending letters to leaders of the top Christian denominations in the country, calling on them to hold NBC’s feet to the fire and demand the network fire those responsible,” he continued.

In addition, the MRC prepared its own Pledge of Allegiance video to protest NBC’s religious bigotry, and announced a new petition by the Citizens Against Religious Bigotry (CARB) coalition to hold NBC accountable for its actions. (The video can be viewed at the MRC Action page at the MRC Web site, www.MRC.org, and the petition is at www.citizensagainstreligiousbigotry.org.)

On a related positive note, NBC’s anti-God clip was so egregious that even CNN’s liberal Jack Cafferty was outraged and vented his anger on-air the day after the U.S. Open.

During his segment of the The Situation Room, Cafferty explained what had happened and declared, “It boggled the mind that a bunch of morons at NBC can take it upon themselves to decide which part to include and which part to omit. Those responsible ought to be fired, post-haste.”

On July 13, NBC Universal issued another apology to 107 members of Congress who had complained about the deplorable no-God-Pledge montage.
GOP ‘Terrorism’

MSNBC’s Chris Matthews, in all seriousness, equated the House GOP’s position on the debt ceiling debate — no tax increases at all — to “terrorism.” Yes, terrorism. On Matthews’ July 5 Hardball, Salon.com’s Joan Walsh railed that the GOP’s “game of chicken” with the tax issue “is deadly and it’s wrong and hostage-taking, and you shouldn’t negotiate with hostage-takers.”

Matthews applauded Walsh and added, “I agree with you. I agree. It’s terrorism.”

The next day, Matthews repeated himself, squawking, “I’ve never seen either political party play terrorist with disregard. The debt ceiling, the limit, it has always been sacrosanct.” He ranted on, wailing that the Republican Party today is “overrun now by people who are abolitionists. They are willing to abolish government and willing to bring it down if they have to. And they don’t give a damn, or damn, about the consequences.”

MSNBC’s Chris Matthews, apparently sober, equated the House GOP’s position on the debt-ceiling debate to “terrorism.”

Not Right

The New York Times’s resident “conservative” columnist, David Brooks, confirmed again why he is in fact a liberal by smearing the Tea Party “faction” of the GOP as impractical, with “no sense of moral decency.” In his July 5 column, Brooks falsely claimed that Democrats are asking the GOP to only close certain tax “loopholes,” not raise taxes, and this “practical” plan should be embraced. But Tea Partiers, whined Brooks, “do not accept the legitimacy of scholars and intellectual authorities.” (Like Brooks?)

“A thousand impartial experts may tell them that a default on the debt would have calamitous effects, far worse than raising tax revenues a bit,” Brooks harrumphed, “but the members of this movement refuse to believe it. The members of this movement have no sense of moral decency.” The faux conservative Brooks then lectured that Tea Partiers “talk blandly of [federal] default and are willing to stain the nation’s honor.”

He’s a Democrat?

Although former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich — who tried to sell Barack Obama’s Senate seat to the highest bidder — was convicted on 17 counts and faces 10 years in prison, the network evening news shows never mentioned he is a Democrat. ABC, CBS, and NBC gave extensive coverage to the jury-trial conviction on June 27, but never told viewers about Blagojevich’s party affiliation. This is standard procedure for the networks.

Here we go again. As the MRC has documented, when 5-term Rep. Gary Condit was found to have had an affair with the murdered Chandra Levy, the networks largely didn’t mention he was a Democrat. The same held true when then-NY Gov. Eliot Spitzer (D) got caught with prostitutes, and when Democratic VP candidate John Edwards was caught with a mistress and love child. Then there’s Rep. William Jefferson (D-La.) who was caught stuffing $90,000 cash in his freezer — the networks rarely mentioned he’s a Democrat. The bias-by-omission list gets longer and longer.
Katie Couric’s Pitiful 5 Years at CBS Marked by Liberal Bias and Ever-Falling Ratings

Perky Katie Couric did not survive long at the CBS Evening News, an outcome the MRC predicted back in 2006 when she assumed the anchor chair at the network. She lasted to May 2009, less than a 5-year run, making a reported $15 million a year. In the end, CBS’s ratings were lower than when Couric started, often falling below 5 million viewers a night, and CBS was still stuck in third place.

Couric’s time at the Evening News echoed her time at NBC’s Today: She slanted news to the left and ran coverage that always sought to discredit conservatism. In a new Media Reality Check, the MRC presented some of Couric’s most biased news reporting while at CBS. Below are some of the bitter-liberal samples.

“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.’” — Couric to President Obama, 7/22/09

“The bigotry expressed against Muslims in this country has been one of the most disturbing stories to surface this year. ... Maybe we need a Muslim version of The Cosby Show.” — Couric, @KatieCouric Show, 12/22/10

“...63 percent of people we polled thought the Republican opposition to the stimulus package was for political reasons. So, are you out of touch with the American people? ... Do you think the Republicans are digging themselves in a hole by not being more supportive of the President’s proposals?” — Couric to House Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio), 2/24/09

“More than 46 million Americans have no health insurance. So when it comes to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and good health, all men are not created equal.” — Couric, 3/12/07

For more examples of Couric’s liberal bias at CBS, visit “Perking Up for Liberal Spin” at www.MRC.org.
Jon Stewart vs. Fox Facts

The Republican presidential contest is picking up steam. Obama is consistently polling under 50 percent. This one’s a toss-up, and in the thick of it is the Fox News Channel. It’s not just their role in hosting and vetting the candidates. It’s their role as the chief villain in the eyes of liberal Democrats struggling to push their version of the “truth” about Obama.

Jon Stewart rhetorically asked Chris Wallace about Fox on Fox News Sunday, because he thought he knew the answer: “Who are the most consistently misinformed media viewers? The most consistently misinformed? Fox, Fox viewers, consistently, every poll.”

In the real world — outside Stewart’s smug bubble — this is garbage. A 2008 survey by the Pew Research Center asked media consumers three questions: which party was in control of Congress (Democrats), who was the secretary of state (Condi Rice) and who was the prime minister of Britain (Gordon Brown).

Let’s document how the viewers of the then-Hannity & Colmes (now Hannity) were better informed than Stewart’s Daily Show gigglers on basic political facts. Hannity viewers beat Stewart’s on the Democratic majority (84 percent to 65 percent correct answers), Condi Rice (a dramatic 73 percent to 48 percent gap) and Gordon Brown (49 percent to 36). Overall, as a percentage getting all three questions right, Hannity won 42-30.

But there is nothing the Left believes in more robotically than the stupidity of conservatives. Otherwise, they would not be conservatives. When liberals get routed in an election, they do not question themselves. The first, and for most, only verdict is that the American people were disastrously flooded by a tsunami of stupidity and misinformation.

The liberal pranksters masquerading as pollsters at the University of Maryland’s Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) are to blame. Last year, they claimed their survey showed that those who watched Fox News Channel on a daily basis were significantly more likely to believe in “misinformation.” But how is that word defined? Look at the details and you will be floored by the misinformation — coming from the pollsters themselves.

Here’s their Exhibit A: Fox viewers were more likely to believe “Among economists who have estimated the effect of the health reform law on the federal budget deficit over the next ten years, more think it will increase the deficit.” That is misinformation? This question is not about facts at all. It’s about the opinions of economists looking into a crystal ball, and PIPA’s “economists” estimate that herding 35 million uninsured Americans into a new federal entitlement program is going to reduce the deficit. This assertion by liberals that Obamcare would cut deficits isn’t technically a “lie” — yet. It is merely a patently ridiculous claim that doesn’t acknowledge the real world. But somehow, Fox News viewers are tagged as the “misinformed” dummies, because their opinions are grounded in logic.

Here’s Exhibit B: Fox viewers were more likely to believe “Most economists who have studied it estimate that the stimulus legislation saved or created a few jobs or caused job losses.” Once again, this isn’t about facts, but about economists and their estimation. The idea that there is “misinformation” afoot, and it’s not about the incredibly nebulous and politicized notion of “saving or creating” jobs — something so nebulous it can never be factually verified — shows you the bias of the PIPA pollsters.

Let’s go all the way back to the drawing board on this poll. Is it fair — whether the pollsters are liberals or conservatives — to expect the American people to identify correctly the estimates made by a panel of economists organized by news editors of The Wall Street Journal? In a random polling sample, how many memorizing Journal subscribers are you going to find?

There was a more serious polling problem here for PIPA. Their polling sample size was 848 respondents, for a margin of error of 3.4 percent. Given that an average primetime audience of Fox News is 2.2 million out of a nation of more than 300 million people, that’s 0.7 percent. Out of 848 poll respondents, 0.7 percent would give us total of about six Fox viewers. In their own polling breakdown, PIPA says 17 percent said they were almost-daily Fox viewers, or about 145 people. Even that is simply not high enough to test in a serious poll.

That is why this survey wasn’t food for the national media, but it keeps popping up on left-wing blogs and with “fake news” hosts from Comedy Central. Jon Stewart did the right thing and conceded he was the one misinforming people on Fox News.
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:** NewsWatch - June 20
- **FNC:** America’s Newsroom - June 20, Fox & Friends - June 3, July 1, 8, Fox News Live - July 8, Hannity - June 2, 29, July 7, 14, 21, O’Reilly Factor - June 13
- **WNYW:** Fox New York - June 21

**Internet**

- ABC News.com, June 19
- American Spectator, June 27
- AZ Central.com, June 17
- BigGovernment.com, July 7
- Christian Post, June 21
- CNN.com, July 7
- Commentary, July 6
- Daily Caller, June 14
- Drudge Report, June 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 6, 7, 13, 17
- FoxNews.com, June 23, July 7
- GOPUSA, July 1, 5
- Mediaite, July 6
- National Review Online, July 7
- NewsMax.com, June 29, July 6
- OneNewsNow, June 20, 22, July 7
- Pajamas Media, June 29
- Patriot Post, June 22, July 8
- Politico.com, June 24, 27
- Townhall.com, July 6
- UPI.com, June 26
- WorldNetDaily, July 4

- **Print**

- Associated Press, July 2
- Augusta Chronicle, June 11
- Baltimore Sun, June 14, July 5
- Congressional Quarterly, June 15
- Daily Telegraph, July 9
- Human Events, July 7

On Fox’s Hannity, July 14, MRC President Brent Bozell analyzed how the liberal media were promoting Obama’s talking points about the deficit and spending.

On the June 10 O’Reilly Factor, MRC Media Analysis Director Tim Graham discussed the liberal media double standard in covering Democratic Rep. Anthony Weiner’s (N.Y.) lewd Tweeting and photos.

MRC President Brent Bozell was interviewed on Fox News Live, July 8, about the United Nations’ plans to implement “global socialism.”

On the July 7 Hannity show, MRC President Brent Bozell detailed how the liberal media were smearing conservatives as “terrorists” and “suicide bombers” because they support a balanced budget.
Help Us Expose George Soros and Double the Impact of Your Donated Dollars!

Here’s an easy way to make a real difference in the fight against the liberal media agenda today:

As you know from reading the July issue of The Watchdog, the MRC’s NewsBusters blog has taken the lead in exposing millions of Americans to the ties between radical anti-American billionaire George Soros and the liberal media. What we’ve learned is absolutely frightening. The media agenda and the Soros agenda are one and the same: they’re anti-American, anti-capitalist, and for a total renunciation of our Judeo-Christian heritage. They must be exposed!

Two generous anonymous patriots have agreed to help you help NewsBusters in their fight to stop the Soros-Media axis in its tracks. Every gift earmarked for NewBusters between now and September 15th will be matched, up to $100,000 total. We’ve already raised $20,625, so we only need to raise and additional $79,375 to meet their challenge. Every dollar you give will equal two dollars of support. Please be as generous as possible. To help with this challenge, you can use the envelope included with this Watchdog, or you can write “Soros Challenge” in the notes section of your check. If you have any questions you are welcome to call Thom Golab or James Nolan at (800) 672-1423.

Minibits

- MSNBC’s Chris Matthews lets his thinning liberal hair down, again: “Well, the GOP has become the Wahhabs of American government, willing to risk bringing down the whole country in the service of their anti-tax ideology.”
- NYT’s Bill Keller admits the obvious, “However tempting the newsworthy havoc of a Palin presidency, I’m pretty sure most journalists would recoil in horror from the idea.”
- Stupid Conservative Department: In a TIME magazine article, “How Today’s Conservatism Lost Touch With Reality,” CNN’s Fareed Zakaria lectures that “Conservatives now espouse ideas drawn from abstract principles with little regard to the realities of America’s present or past.”
- ABC’s John Berman breathlessly reports that Sarah Palin “once emailed an aide asking for ‘Low-carb foods, just don’t want the kids to have too much sugar, white carb stuff.’”
- ABC’s Barbara Walters reveals her liberal wisdom: “I think Anthony Weiner should hang in there. He was a good Congressman, and maybe he can weather this all and be effective.”
- MSNBC’s Chris Matthews whined that if Weiner stayed, Democrats would “never get the Speakership back, because the people in the rural areas of this country who are Christian conservative culturally — you can say backward if you want — but they don’t like this kind of stuff at all.”
- Meanwhile, MSNBC’s Martin Bashir explains the Senate GOP leadership: “Is Mr. McConnell suffering some kind of mild dementia or long-term memory loss?”
- HBO’s Bill Maher tells CNN that GOP presidential candidates “are, of course, selling their souls to the corporate interests who back them, and who have just horrible society-killing ideas about America.”
- Finally, TIME’s Richard Stengel opines seriously, “If the Constitution was intended to limit the federal government, it sure doesn’t say so.”