The liberal media will stop at nothing to cripple the Tea Party. They are attacking this grassroots movement because it is 1) an effective force for conservatism and 2) they need a bogeyman to blame for the economic disaster caused by the socialist policies of President Obama and his allies in Congress.

It is all geared to help those left-wingers in the 2012 elections. Here at the MRC, we’ve documented and exposed the media attacks against the Tea Party since it was born during the Obamacare battle in early 2010. Since then, the vitriol hurled by left-wing journalists against conservatives has grown coarser, in contradiction to all their pleading about “civility.” This was abundantly obvious in the fight over raising the federal debt ceiling in July and August.

Let’s look at some examples from that battle — and remember this is the same media that blamed the Jan. 8 Tucson shooting on the rhetoric of conservative talk radio and the Tea Party. Remember also that President Obama gave a nationally televised speech in Tucson after the shooting calling for “more civility in our public discourse.” He also said, “at a time when our discourse has become so sharply polarized ... it’s important for us to pause for a moment and make sure that we are talking with each other in a way that heals, not a way that wounds.”

Okay, now fast forward to the debt-ceiling debate. On July 27, New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman blared, “If sane Republicans do not stand up to this Hezbollah faction in their midst, the Tea Party will take the GOP on a suicide mission.”

Two days later, MSNBC’s Steven Rattner seriously argued “the problem with this is it’s like a form of economic terrorism. I imagine these Tea Party guys are, like, strapped with dynamite, standing in the middle of Times Square at rush hour and saying, ‘Either you do it my way, or we’re going to blow you up, ourselves up, and the whole country up with us.’”

In other words, Tea Party Americans are like radical Islamic suicide bombers! Is that civil discourse?

That same day, July 29, Bloomberg News’ Margaret Carlson described Tea Party lawmakers as the “nihilist caucus, which is, ‘Listen, we want to burn the place down.’ ... They’ve strapped explosives to the Capitol and they think they’re immune from it. The Tea Party caucus wants this crisis.”

(Note to Carlson: President Obama’s communist friend Bill Ayers participated in actual bombings of the Capitol and the Pentagon in 1971-72.)
Over at CBS, the marginally more rational Bob Schieffer exclaimed, “Some people say that the Republican Party has been held hostage by the Tea Party.” At least at CBS Tea Partiers have been downgraded from terrorists to kidnappers.

Howard Fineman of The Huffington Post threw another twisted analogy into the mix by telling viewers of MSNBC’s Hardball, “What’s going on here, as I see it, is a kind of slow-motion secession. … The Tea Party people are saying, we want to secede from that society.”

Hardball host Chris Matthews smeared the Tea Party for backing real spending cuts and a balanced budget amendment as part of the debt-ceiling deal. After the vote on the deal, Matthews lamented, “What I saw at least was one guy with a knife and the other trying to avoid being cut. It was a thug attacking a victim. It was a mugging. … The mugging continues, again and again and again. The people who perpetrated this assault on the president will come back to do it again.” Nice civility, don’t you think?

Putting the arsenic-icing on the rhetorical cake, New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd snapped: “Tea Party budget-slashers … were like cannibals, eating their own party and leaders alive. They were like vampires, draining the country’s reputation, credit rating and compassion. They were like zombies, relentlessly and mindlessly coming back again and again to assault their unnerved victims, Boehner and President Obama.”

Not surprisingly, the oh-so sensitive left-wing media said nothing about this vile rhetoric.

While the debt deal was a loser for conservatives – no real spending cuts and no balanced budget – the liberal media also know the political fallout is bad for Obama, especially the downgrading of America’s credit rating by Standard & Poor’s. So, they’re trying to shift the blame to the Tea Party.

NBC obliged Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) on Aug. 7, when this horse’s ass bellowed, “I believe this, without question, the Tea Party downgrade.” Howard Dean and David Axelrod repeated that talking point on CBS.

In an MRC press release, yours truly said, “To blame the Tea Party for the S&P downgrade is like blaming the Betty Ford Clinic for alcoholism. The entire existence of the Tea Party movement has been based on an attempt to stop the runaway spending of Washington — by the likes of John Kerry. … This is a well-coordinated effort by the left-wing to deflect bad news — very bad news — away from their very left-wing President Obama.”

The liberal media will do anything to cut the Tea Party off at the knees and cover for Obama and liberals in the 2012 election year. The discourse is only going to get worse.

We’re tracking, exposing, and neutralizing that serial dishonesty every day through our MRC divisions online, and in print, on talk radio, television, Facebook, Twitter, and through our MRC Action Team. The battle is intensifying and we are advancing, so stay tuned.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
CMI Report Documents How CNN Pushes Pro-Gay Agenda

CNN is aggressively promoting a pro-homosexual agenda through its news topics, anchors, and choice of guests, a new study by the MRC’s Culture & Media Institute (CMI) documents. There is no balance at CNN when it comes to this issue.

CMI looked at 239 CNN programs that were broadcast between June 15 and July 15. On those shows, CNN quoted or interviewed 98 people who backed the gay agenda; 48 who expressed no opinion on the issue; and 28 who criticized homosexual behavior. That’s a nearly 4-to-1 ratio of pro-gay guests.

Some of those guests included Margaret Cho, who has publicly said she is obsessed with “f---ing Sarah Palin.” Cho was interviewed three times on CNN in the June/July timeframe.

Radical gay activist Dan Savage was also interviewed by CNN’s Joy Behar. Savage has said on television that he wishes Republicans were “all f---ing dead” and that he wants to “f--- the s--- out of Rick Santorum.”

CNN anchor Don Lemon, who is gay, and the network’s Anderson Cooper and Joy Behar all received awards from the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Imagine the outcry from liberals if a CNN anchor had received an award from a pro-marriage group!

The CMI study also documents that on July 15 CNN anchor Ali Velshi argued in favor of the California gay history bill, stating it was a “move toward inclusion.” That same day, CNN’s Suzanne Malveaux cheered Atlanta’s “gay population” because the city had been named the “Nation’s Gayest City” by a homosexual magazine.

When New York passed its gay marriage law on June 24, CNN’s Kyra Philips and Don Lemon praised the legislation, and Joy Behar later exclaimed, “It’s very nice. It’s lovely.”

Later, on July 3, CNN’s Howard Kurtz admitted the obvious: “The media’s celebration — there really is no other word — of the gay marriage debate in New York.” Kurtz also spoke with CNN’s Carl Crawford, asking whether the coverage of the issue had been balanced. Crawford also admitted the obvious: “I think the media has been kind of rallying behind the marriage equality movement. ... We like it. It’s democratic to us, and that’s just one of our soft spots.” Undoubtedly.

Have you seen MRCTV?

We have videos you’ve got to see... and share!

Go to www.MRCTV.org and see and share the best video clips on the Internet exposing liberal media bias and covering conservative ideas, leaders, and the grassroots.

How popular can the videos be? Within just two days of its posting, 47,904 people viewed MRCTV’s video of Rick Santelli ripping a CNBC guest for calling Tea Partiers “freaked-out white men who are unemployed.”
Krugman: More Bias

Left-wing NYT columnist Paul Krugman confessed to what the MRC has long documented: the liberal media don’t care about fair and balanced news coverage. They have an agenda. In his July 29 column, Krugman lectured, “[M]aking nebulous calls for centrism, like writing news reports that always place equal blame on both parties, is a big cop-out — a cop-out that only encourages more bad behavior. The problem with American politics right now is Republican extremism, and if you’re not willing to say that, you’re helping make that problem worse.”

Although 66% of the news reports blamed the GOP for the debt-ceiling impasse, Krugman whined, “The cult of balance has played an important role in bringing us to the edge of disaster. For when reporting on political disputes always implies that both sides are to blame, there is no penalty for extremism.” In other words: Real journalists must support Obama and demonize his critics.

Press Secretary Schieffer

Although there is enough money in the U.S. Treasury to pay for Social Security, Medicare, and many other services regardless of the debt-ceiling deal, CBS’s Bob Schieffer constantly and dutifully repeated the White House fear-line talking points that Social Security checks wouldn’t go out unless a deal was struck.

On July 22, Schieffer told Evening News viewers that “millions of Americans depend on Social Security to support their families and make ends meet. But now, they may not get their next check if the debt ceiling crisis is not resolved.”

The next day he said the same, warning that “the people who rely on Social Security may end up being the first to get hurt.” Then on July 26, Schieffer hit it again: “The president says the government will run out of money and, among other things, will have to stop sending out Social Security checks.” Schieffer might as well work for the White House.

Gays Against Obama?

MSNBC’s openly gay host Thomas Roberts blew a fuse on July 22 when guest Jimmy LaSalvia, who runs a homosexual group opposed to President Obama’s policies, dared to say he was “reaching out” politically to Republican presidential candidate Michele Bachmann, a strong conservative. LaSalvia said it was important to defeat Obama in 2012 “and replace this failed president.”

MSNBC’s Schieffer, pushing the fear button, repeatedly reported the White House talking point that if the debt ceiling was not raised, older Americans would not get their Social Security checks.

MSNBC’s Thomas Roberts rants against a gay guest opposed to Obama that Republican Michele Bachmann “would extinguish you!”

MSNBC’s Roberts then railed, “But you will replace him with a person that would extinguish you! You’re replacing him with a person that doesn’t believe that you have a right in this country to get married, that believes you don’t even have a right in this country to be gay because she co-owns a clinic that will convert you.” Why bring guests on the show when Roberts can just lecture to everyone?
Echo Chamber

On cue, the major liberal daily newspapers reported on Aug. 2 that the non-existent spending cuts in the $2.4 trillion debt-ceiling deal would, nonetheless, slow economic growth. USA Today’s “Money” section cover story headlined, “Spending cuts could further weaken economy,” and the Washington Post's front page read, “Deal risks undermining fragile growth.”

In the liberal news pages – not editorial pages – of the Wall Street Journal, page 2 sniffed, “Deal seen as mild drag on economy.” The Los Angeles Times, sticking to the liberal playbook, complained, “Deal offers little to boost economy” and further warned, “debt ceiling deal casts a bleak light on the future.”

The deal – no surprise – has no spending cuts, only slightly lower spending increases. And if spending cuts cause slowdowns, then spending programs like, oh, the stimulus, cause growth?

Don’t Say Obama

While the numbers show that 46 million Americans are now on food stamps, neither ABC, CBS, nor NBC are linking the dire news to the Obama administration’s policies, something the networks regularly did when a Republican was president; for example, they blamed Reagan for homelessness and Bush for high gas prices. In fact, as the MRC has documented, between Jan. 1 and Aug. 4 – seven months! – the network news shows ran 12 food stamps stories in which they never mentioned Obama or his policies.

Typical of the mum-on-Obama coverage was NBC’s Brian Williams, who told viewers on Aug. 3 that the grim statistics show that “the number of Americans relying on food stamps has hit another all-time record. These numbers would come as a huge disappointment to President Lyndon Johnson, who launched his war on poverty back in 1964.”

Tax Junk Food!

CBS’s Early Show loves the idea of taxing junk food so much that it ran a long report on July 26 interviewing three supporters of the scheme but no opponents. Reporter Michelle Miller spoke with the left-wing Center for Science in the Public Interest, lamenting that “poorer consumers are often priced out of healthier options, because fresher, purer foods cost more.”

She then interviewed a reporter for the NYT’s — not mentioning he’s a journalist, only saying he’s an “industry expert” — who argued for taxes on soda and “a huge public health campaign” on “the way we ought to eat.” Then, CBS’s daring gumshoe asked a woman on the street eating potato chips if she’d pay $2 more for the bag, which led Miller to opine, “While some say a new tax is the last thing we need, it could mean a healthier America.”

Obama-Smitten

NBC’s newly hired Harry Smith revealed his deep affection for Barack Obama on the Aug. 4 Nightly News with a fawning happy birthday message to the president, remarking that, “Once upon a time, when you were a young man, all you had to do was show up and teeming throngs of people would gather to cheer you on. They even wrote songs about you.”

Smith prattled on, “Lord knows, you’ve been taking a beating. Don’t despair, Mr. President. 50 is a state of mind. It’s a moment to assess the doable, to know you are only as old as Congress makes you feel.” Anchor Brian Williams then chimed in, “I read today that he will still be younger, at 50, than all of the foreseeable [Republican] candidates for president. So there’s solace in that.” Needless to say, Smith, 60, did not recite any on-air birthday wishes for Bush, Bush senior, or Reagan.
Brian Williams vs. The Tea Party

You can tell the liberals are really sweating the politics of the debt-limit talks when NBC puts on a special Dateline NBC devoted to politics. This is normally a time slot devoted to “news” topics like Casey Anthony or Lindsay Lohan. But last week, viewers were “treated” to anchorman Brian Williams actually covering a real news topic. It’s just too bad he forgot he was supposed to be a reporter, not an editorialist, spinning furiously against conservatives trying to rein in Obama’s incredibly reckless flood of new spending.

The last time Brian Williams showed up in prime time for a splashy special on public policy was an enormous tribute to the new president, Barack Obama — making a run for hamburgers with him, hailing how he displayed apples everywhere, and bowing to him and wishing him a pleasant evening after NBC chronicled his glorious day of saving America from recession. You know, just like Williams treated Bush.

Everyone knew the way the wind was going to blow on this show. Williams was so nervous about the Tea Party he actually suggested House Speaker John Boehner might be a force for good. Weirdly playing snippets of the old Jimmy Dean tune “Big Bad John,” about how nobody gives lip to Big Bad John, Williams announced, “By all accounts the big meeting with his fellow Republicans is tense. In no uncertain terms the Speaker tells hardline conservatives, who are in no mood to compromise, to get in line behind his bill.”

Notice the labels. Somehow, Williams never spent a second on his Obama special asking the President how he was going to handle the demands of “hardline liberals” — or any kind of liberal, for that matter. The only hardliners are conservatives who want to stop the spending madness. What this country desperately needs are more “hardline conservatives” to dismay network anchormen.

Williams undermined his own musical intro by questioning Boehner’s grip on power. “Mr. Speaker, is it fair to say you have a bit of a rebellion on your hands?” Sadly, Boehner tried to play along. “I’ve got a little rebellion on my hands every day. It comes with the territory.”

Williams pulled out The New York Times, not exactly where Republicans go to look good. “You don’t look happy on the front page of The New York Times. It says ‘Boehner’s Grip on His Caucus is Put to Test on Standoff.’ Feel like you’re being tested?” Boehner agreed. The question is whether Boehner wants to pass that test by pleasing liberals like Brian Williams, or by pleasing conservatives.

Williams suggested the newest Tea Party Republicans in Congress weren’t real Republicans: “Your job is to run your party, but there is another party in there too. You have this Tea Party caucus that didn’t come to Washington with the same values.”

This time, Boehner had a good answer. “It’s not the Tea Party caucus. It would be more what I would describe as some hardline conservatives who want more. I don’t blame them. I want more, too.” And now we arrive at the point where Williams and NBC made colossal fools of themselves.

Williams wanted the political narrative to be painted by ultraliberal Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.). “Word has gotten around” that House Republicans held a meeting and showed a motivational movie clip from the Ben Affleck crime movie The Town, which Williams said “eventually involves hockey masks and baseball bats and tons of bullets.” Horrors!

After Schumer declared the Republicans were violent nuts, the NBC cameras turned to Republican whip Kevin McCarthy. Williams pushed him about this press-stopping scandal. McCarthy professed amazement that Schumer would be highlighting a movie clip from a meeting he didn’t attend.

He shouldn’t be amazed, and Brian Williams would never try to embarrass Democrats by accepting leaks about movie clips from internal party meetings. That partisan double standard defines the Old Media.

For more evidence, see the Williams interview with former speaker Nancy Pelosi. He didn’t ask about her grip on her caucus of hardline leftists. He didn’t read her headlines from The Washington Times. He asked about who the Republicans would hurt. “A liberal member said to me his fear is the poor are gonna get hurt and the rich are gonna get by without harm in this. Is that your fear?”

Pelosi preposterously proclaimed she had the entire country at heart, while the GOP only cared about the super rich: “My concern is for the great middle class and we want to have a resolution of this that is for 100 percent of the American people. Republicans want to have a resolution that is for the 2 percent.”

There were a dozen different ways to respond to that outrageous statement. One was silent assent. Guess which option Williams chose.
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:**
- *CBN News*, Aug. 3
- *NewsWatch*, Aug. 3

**CNN:**
- *John King*, July 7

**FNC:**
- *Cavuto* - July 27
- *Fox & Friends* - July 22, 29, Aug. 5, 12
- *Fox News Live* - Aug. 6
- *Fox News Watch* - July 30
- *Hannity* - July 21, Aug. 5, 11
- *Special Report* - July 27

### Radio

- *American Family Radio*, Aug. 2, 3
- *Catholic Radio Connection*, July 28
- *Family News in Focus*, Aug. 3
- *IRN Radio News*, Aug. 3
- *Lars Larson Show*, July 20, 27
- *Mancow Morning Madhouse*, Aug. 3
- *NRA News*, Aug. 1
- *Rusty Humphries Show*, July 26
- *KBAR*, Burley, ID, Aug. 3
- *KPDQ*, Portland, OR, Aug. 4
- *KPRZ*, San Diego, CA, Aug. 1
- *KZIM*, Cape Girardeau, MO, Aug. 9
- *WABC*, New York, NY, Aug. 7
- *WBAL*, Baltimore, MD, July 18, Aug. 4
- *WBAP*, nationally syndicated, July 26
- *WBT*, Charlotte, NC, Aug. 3
- *WHTC*, Holland, MI, Aug. 3
- *WIBA*, Madison, WI, Aug. 3
- *WIBC*, Indianapolis, IN, Aug. 1
- *WJR*, Detroit, MI, Aug. 8
- - PARTIAL LISTING

### Internet

- *American Spectator*, July 19
- *AmericanThinker*, July 28
- *BernardGoldberg.com*, July 27
- *Breitbart.TV*, July 28, Aug. 8, 9, 10, 12
- *Chicagoist*, July 26
- *Dailly Caller*, July 18, 21, 31
- *Dakota Voice*, July 28
- *DayLife.com*, July 15
- *Drudge Report*, July 25, 29, Aug. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
- *Examiner.com*, July 21, Aug. 11
- *Forbes.com*, July 28, 29
- *FoxNews.com*, July 18, 28, Aug. 1, 4
- *GOPUSA*, July 29
- *HollywoodReporter.com*, July 18
- *Huffington Post*, July 15
- *Intellectual Conservative*, Aug. 6
- *LifeNews.com*, Aug. 3
- *Mediaite*, July 27
- *MiamiHerald.com*, July 13
- *National Review Online*, July 18
- *NewsMax.com*, Aug. 5
- *OneNewsNow.com*, July 27, Aug. 5
- *The PatriotPost*, Aug. 4
- *Right Side News*, July 15
- *The Hotline*, July 20
- *Townhall.com*, July 21
- *UPI.com*, July 13
- *Washington Post blog*, Aug. 1
- *Weasel Zippers*, July 14
- - PARTIAL LISTING

### Print

- *Business Week*, July 16
- *Catholic News Agency*, July 19
- *Christian Post*, Aug. 4
- *Florida Sun-Sentinel*, July 30
- *Human Events*, July 11, 21
- *Philadelphia Inquirer*, July 19
- *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, Aug. 1, 4

On Fox's *Your World* with Neil Cavuto, Aug. 12, Brent Bozell details the liberal media's spin in covering the failed leftist attempt to recall Republican lawmakers in Wisconsin.

CBN News interviews MRC Vice President Dan Gainor about liberal media news labeling Tea Party Americans “terrorists” and “suicide bombers.”

During his weekly appearance on *Fox & Friends*, Brent Bozell discussed the liberal media cheerleading for a $30-million Democratic campaign to oust Republican lawmakers in Wisconsin — a plan that failed.

During the debt-ceiling debate, stories by the MRC’s news division, CNSNews.com, were frequently carried by *The Drudge Report* — three stories in one day on Aug. 1, 2011.
Reuters’ Chrystia Freeland laughably claims that “mainstream journalism is averse to making judgments.” CBS’s Bob Scheiffer whines that allowing House freshmen to influence the debt-ceiling debate is “like letting the teenager in the family run the family budget.” Morning Joe’s Mika Brzezinski explains middle-class tax hikes: “The Republicans look stupid and mean. This is a no-brainer in terms of a deal. This is a no brainer and they look mean and they look difficult and they’re going to lose this.” Washington Post’s Sam Stein implores Obama: “Is now a really good time to cut trillions of dollars in spending? How will we still create jobs?” Esquire’s Stephen Marche fawns over Obama, “‘I am large, I contain multitudes,’ Walt Whitman wrote, and Obama lives that lyrical prophecy. Barack Obama is developing into what Hegel called a ‘world-historical soul,’ an embodiment of the spirit of the times. He is what we hope we can be.” CNN’s Piers Morgan plays political historian, “Where is the similar mob to Mussolini’s and Hitler’s in the modern democratic era? The Tea Party?” Given the 9.2% unemployment, ABC’s Christiane Amanpour wonders, “Is this an opportunity, for instance, to try to talk about creating jobs, and adding, maybe, another stimulus?” CBS’s Bob Scheiffer lectures Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.): “I don’t hear any concessions from people on the other side. They just say no taxes, and that’s their negotiating posture. Can you have meaningful reform here without increasing revenues in some way?” NYT’s Robin Pogrebin sniffs that arts funding cuts will hurt a Kansas sculptor who “has made tiny copies, for example, of the World’s Largest Ball of Twine [and] the World’s Largest Can of Fruit Cocktail.” MSNBC’s Chris Matthews labels the GOP position on debt-limit talks: “It’s terrorism.”