Liberal Media Downplay or Ignore Democratic Scandals During 2014, An Election Year

The liberal media were in the tank for Barack Obama in his 2008 and 2012 presidential election runs. But they also pulled out all the stops to help leftists get elected (or reelected) in the off-year contests.

This year is no exception as left-wingers continue to push their agenda, in the culture and in the halls of power, with the help of a liberal media that spreads their gospel but either spins, downplays, or outright ignores the bad news that could hurt the left.

That non-coverage, or censorship of bad news, is analyzed daily at the MRC and a new report by Deputy Research Director Geoff Dickens reveals some of the outrageous scandals the liberal networks ABC, CBS, and NBC are hiding from the American people — in 2014 alone!

The report, Liberals Behaving Badly: Political Scandals the Networks Are Hiding From You, can be read in full at www.mrc.org. Let’s look at some highlights.

• In 2010, liberal Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn (D), launched an anti-violence program called the Neighborhood Recovery Initiative, whose financial war chest grew to $54.5 million. But a lot of those funds were apparently spent to help political allies and fund non-existent programs, leading critics to call it a “political slush fund.” The program and where all the money went is still under investigation by state and federal investigators. Neither ABC, NBC, nor CBS have said a word about the “slush fund” claims or the investigation.

• Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-La.) used $3,200 in government money to charter a private plane in the fall of 2013 to attend a fundraiser, CNN reported in early August 2014, and noting that “it is illegal to spend government money campaigning.” Number of network stories on this scandal? Zero.

• California’s left-wing Democratic State Senator Leland Yee, who has ties to convicted Hillary Clinton bundler Norman Hsu and Chinese gangsters, was arrested on theft, bribery, and extortion charges in March. Although Yee was a gun control advocate, he conspired “to traffic in high-powered weapons in exchange for campaign cash,” said the FBI, as reported by Investor’s Business Daily. CBS and NBC didn’t cover the story and ABC’s
Amy Robach gave it only 10 seconds on *Good Morning America*. No surprise, the liberal Robach never mentioned Yee is a Democrat.

- According to the Apr. 28 *Chicago Tribune*, Illinois Democratic State Rep. Keith Farnham was charged with “using both personal and state-owned computers to trade hundreds of images and videos depicting child pornography and engage in graphic online chats in which he allegedly bragged about sexually molesting a 6-year-old girl.” The number of news stories on this by ABC, CBS, and NBC? Zero.

- Charlotte Mayor Patrick Cannon, a friend of President Barack Obama and who helped bring the 2012 Democratic National Convention to Charlotte, was arrested in March on charges of bribery, allegedly $48,000 worth, including $20,000 in cash from undercover FBI agents.

ABC’s *Good Morning America* gave the story 12 seconds, with reporter Amy Robach again not telling viewers that Cannon is a Democrat. In its short piece, the NBC’s *Nightly News* also didn’t ID Cannon as a Democrat, CBS didn’t even run a story.

- In April, lefty Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.) went on the New Nation of Islam radio show and called Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas an “Uncle Tom” and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) a “racist.” The networks reported zip, nada.

Those are only a few of the scandals involving liberals that the left-wing media have ignored, censored in 2014. There are numerous other examples of such blatant — and infuriating — bias and hypocrisy recorded at the MRC. All the MRC divisions document, expose, and neutralize that liberal coverage everyday — the News Analysis Division, NewsBusters, Business & Media Institute, Culture & Media Institute, CNSNews.com, MRCTV, and MRC Latino, along with our president and staff experts who are regularly interviewed on talk radio and on television.

Nobody does what the MRC, America’s Media Watchdog, does. We have an impact every day, and are reaching millions of Americans with our message. But it is a continual battle, especially now because left-wing billionaires who support the traditional liberal media also are funneling tons of financial support to their new media counterparts on the Internet and in social media.

We need your help. Consider making a donation to the MRC today and call us at 571-267-3500. We look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President

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**“Brent Bozell’s Media Research Center is the only organization I know dedicated to targeting and exposing the lies and calumnies of the vitriolic Big Media, which, for far too long has been the propaganda arm of the left. I have donated monthly to the MRC since 2007, and was pleased to increase my effectiveness in December 2013 by joining Brent’s Patriot Fund. I pray you will do the same.”**

**THOMAS LATIMER**
Member • Media Research Center’s Patriot Fund

For information regarding the MRC’s Patriot Fund, please contact Marissa Caligiuri, MRC’s Monthly Giving Associate at (571) 267-3500 or send an email to her at mcaligiuri@mrc.org
MRC Launches Fresh Redesign
More Video, More Content, and Easy-to-Use Social Media Tools

The Media Research Center’s NewsBusters blog, which exposes and combats liberal media bias 24/7, has been dramatically redesigned! It relaunched in early September and now features more content with less clutter, more videos, improved social media tools, and is easier to navigate.

This is the first major website redesign of NewsBusters since 2010, and all the new features are optimized not only for desktop computers but also for mobile devices, such as your smart-phone, Tablet, or iPad.

NewsBusters, created by the MRC in 2005, is the only blog on the Internet that provides immediate exposure of national media bias, unfairness, inaccuracy, and occasional idiocy. NB is regularly cited by Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Laura Ingraham, Mark Levin, Fox News, the Drudge Report, and countless other news outlets, including even some liberal ones. The Washington Post has said this “fiesty blog” is run by “the best-known and best-funded conservative watchdog.”

Every month, NewsBusters generates an average of 11.5 million pageviews, an average of 383,000 per day. Also, the Facebook page for NewsBusters has 2 million fans (and growing), and because of the way Facebook works, NewsBusters content reaches about 8 million viewers every week.

In addition, with numerous other sites linking to NB every day, the media citations, Twitter, Facebook, Digg, Reddit, and other social sites, more than 100 million “impressions” can be attributed to NB each week, meaning it is placed, cited, or seen that many times.

“The redesigned site is easy to use, filled with cool videos and pictures, and provides a sweeping, one-stop shop for exposing the endless examples of liberal media bias,” said MRC President Brent Bozell. “No place on the web does what NewsBusters does, and viewers will love the new site and all its features.”

To see the blog, visit www.newsbusters.org.

“Newsbusters rocks!”
RUSH LIMBAUGH
Benghazi Censored

When the U.S. compound in Benghazi was attacked on Sept. 11, 2012, two men on the ground there were ordered by the CIA to stand down and not try to rescue the ambassador for at least 30 minutes, but this startling news was not reported by ABC, CBS or NBC. In their new book, *13 Hours*, authors Kris Paronto and John Tiegen, who were at the compound that fateful day, told Fox News on Sept. 5 about the CIA order.

When asked by Bret Baier, "If I gave you that 30 minutes back, would Ambassador Stevens and Sean Smith be alive today?" Paronto said, "Yes, they would still be alive." The two men had been waiting, fully armed, in a truck, ready to go to the compound that was less than a mile away. A diplomatic agent then screamed on the radio that he would die if they didn’t come, so the two left, ignoring their chief’s orders to stand down. How in the world is this not news? The networks did not report this story; instead, they devoted 66 minutes of coverage to the death of Joan Rivers.

Obamacare?

For 300 days - Nov. 14, 2013 through Sept. 10, 2014 — the alleged investigative ABC news program *Nightline* did not report on Obamacare, not one, single story in nearly a year. Despite the endless number of nightmare stories out there about this monumental disaster, *Nightline* isn’t covering it. *Nightline* instead is focused on cutting-edge topics such as Hollywood nude selfies and nudist reality TV shows.

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Typical for *Nightline* was the Sept. 8 edition, where co-host Juju Chang teased, “Have a sexy selfie? So do they? From celebs to the new reality stars.” Chang then breathlessly noted, “Plus, let the Royal Baby mania begin. William and Kate announce their little prince is getting a sibling.” The same show aired a segment on a guy who hang-glides near active volcanoes. That was it for the heavy hitters at *Nightline*. Where have you gone Ted Koppel?

Two security officers, ordered to standby for 30 minutes during the Benghazi attack, say they could have saved our ambassador. ABC, CBS, and NBC Haven’t reported their story.

Don’t Report This!

Diane Foley, mother of journalist James Foley who was beheaded by ISIS, told CNN how the Obama Administration treated her son’s case as an “annoyance” and threatened to prosecute her if she raised a ransom to free her son, but neither ABC nor NBC reported the story, and *CBS This Morning* gave it one minute.

“As an American I was embarrassed and appalled. I think our efforts to get Jim freed were an annoyance [to the government],” Mrs. Foley told CNN on Sept. 12. “We were asked to not go to the media. To just trust that it would be taken care of. We were told we could not raise ransom, that it was illegal. We might be prosecuted. We were told that our government would not exchange prisoners, would not do a military action. We were told to trust that he would be freed somehow miraculously. And he wasn’t, was he, you know?”

The mother of the journalist James Foley, who was beheaded by ISIS, told CNN about how the Obama administration repeatedly threatened to prosecute her if she tried to raise a ransom for her son and treated the case as an “annoyance,” but the networks didn’t report this startling story.
Oops! Wrong Number

Justice Department official Brian Fallon mistakenly called House Oversight Committee Chairman Darrell Issa, instead of Democrat Rep. Elijah Cummings, to discuss leaking and spinning IRS-Tea Party scandal documents to “preferred” journalists and was caught in the conversation, but ABC, NBC, and CBS didn’t report it.

Fox News covered the story on Sept. 9, detailing how Fallon asked (thinking it was the Democrats’ office) for help in leaking the documents to certain reporters who could then speak with DOJ officials “before the majority” of journalists did. When caught, Fallon put the call on hold, then came back and said there had been “a change in plans” and no documents would be released.

The exchange proves coordination by the DOJ with the Democrats to control and spin information about the IRS scandal, but the networks censored this powerful story from the public.

ABC Censors Itself

ABC commissioned its own ABC News/Washington Post poll of Americans’ views of President Obama but then didn’t report the findings because they made Obama look bad. The ABC survey, released on Sept. 9 and discussed on blogs and in other media, showed that only 43% of Americans see Obama as “a strong leader,” the lowest since he was elected. Also, 55% said Obama was not a strong leader, another career low.

The poll further revealed that Americans, 52% to 42%, see Obama’s presidency as more of a failure than a success. ABC’s Good Morning America gave one sentence to the poll.

Minibits

- Fox’s liberal Geraldo Rivera reveals his genius: “The 2nd Amendment, the provision that gives every American the right to keep and bear arms, is blind and stupid.”
- NBC’s Chuck Todd suggests the GOP’s problem with female voters is that they think, “You know what? There’s just too many crazy white guys who have crazy theories about my reproductive system and I’m not listening.”
- CBS’s Vladimir Duthiers explains the Ferguson shooting, “Sounds to me as if the cops are protected no matter what they do.”
- Fox’s leftist Juan Williams unmask the opposition to Obama, “If you look at the core constituency, the people who are in, let’s say, Tea Party opposition, support impeachment, there’s no diversity. It’s a white, older group of people. The Republican Party has become almost a completely white party.”
- MSNBC’s Michelle Bernard goes off the rails, “There is a war on black boys in this country” and “it’s going to turn into a genocide if it doesn’t stop.”
- CNN’s Don Lemon justifies crime: “I understand. There should never be rioting, but it happens when people are frustrated.”
- Think Progress Editor Alan Pyke tweets, “I hope Roger Ailes dies slow, painful, and soon. The evil that man has done to the American tapestry is unprecedented for an individual.”
- Rolling Stone writer Reid Cherlin absurdly claims, “No, Barack Obama never had reporters eating out of his hand the way that right-wingers love to allege.”
- Finally, some fresh air about ISIS from NBC’s Richard Engel: “The build-up of ISIS in Iraq and Syria was incredibly predictable. … So that we have no strategy to deal with ISIS is quite — is quite ridiculous at this stage.”
When Child Sex Abuse Isn’t News

Five years ago, Pope Benedict arrived in London to erupting controversy. Around 10,000 people took to the capital’s streets for a rally against the Holy Father’s “intolerance,” and as the Guardian reported, against “the child abuse scandal for which so many hold the pontiff personally responsible, for both accelerating it and then covering it up.”

The abuse in question centered for the most part on incidents that were 40 years old or more. Nevertheless, CBS reporter Mark Phillips described the trip as “A test of whether Pope Benedict can get his message across over the background noise of the Church’s child abuse scandal. And that test gets harder as time goes on.”

The media were pledging to never let up with the noise-making.

Today the United Kingdom is ablaze with the official discovery that in the northern English town of Rotherham, at least 1,400 children, some as young as 11, were groomed for sexual exploitation and rape (even gang rape) while the authorities looked the other way—from 1997 to 2013. The abusers were Pakistanis.

Some would ask (correctly): Where were the police? We would ask: Where are these child-defending networks now?

“The vast majority of perpetrators have been identified as South Asian and most victims were young white girls, adding to the complexity of the case,” reported The New York Times. “Some officials appeared to believe that social workers pointing to a pattern of sexual exploitation were exaggerating, while others reportedly worried about being accused of racism if they spoke out.”

In America, the same TV networks over the last dozen years have filed hundreds of noise-making stories slamming decades-old allegations of child abuse in the Catholic Church—suddenly they can’t find this story with two hands. There’s been nothing on ABC, CBS, NBC, and PBS. A Nexis search can’t even find any transcripts mentioning the story on CNN or MSNBC, and just one on Fox News. USA Today hasn’t found it, and The Washington Post only placed a story online, not in the paper.

Do they only care to report on England’s royal children? No one else’s matter?

The New York Times and the Los Angeles Times discovered the story briefly on August 27, and NPR aired two reports, on August 26 and 27. The New York Times then put it on the front page on September 2. But none of these stories made any mention of Muslims or Islam. These child abusers were not clerics, but their religious heritage was as politically touchy as their ethnicity.

Take the Catholic Church out of it and child-sex scandals aren’t particularly scandalous in the eyes of the press.
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**

C-SPAN:  Book TV, Aug. 25
FBN:  Best of Imus in the Morning, Sept. 2
FNC:  Dennis Miller Show, Sept. 6
Fox and Friends, Aug. 29
Happening Now, Aug. 25
The Kelly File, Sept. 5
Your World w/ Neil Cavuto, Sept. 8

NewsmaxTV:  America’s Forum, Aug. 27

One America News Network:
    - The Daily Ledger, Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11

**Radio**

American Family Radio, Sept. 10
Battle Line with Alan Nathan, Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11
Franklin Raff Show, Sept. 3
Herman Cain Show, Sept. 4, 5
Janet Mefferd Show, Aug. 28, Sept. 11
Lars Larson Show, Sept. 3
Mark Levin Show, Sept. 26
Phil Valentine Show, Sept. 10, 11
Red Eye Radio, Aug. 26
Rush Limbaugh Show, Sept. 3, 15, 23
Sean Hannity Radio Show, Sept. 10
USA Radio, Sept. 3, 8
KCBR, Colorado Springs, CO, Aug. 28
KCMN, Colorado Springs, CO, Sept. 4, 5, 11, 12
KERV, Kerrville, TX, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10
KLZ, Denver, CO, Sept. 10
KMED, Medford, OR, Sept. 9
KNTH, Houston, TX, Aug. 28, Sept. 2, 4, 9, 11
KTRS, St. Louis, MO, Sept. 10
KWEL, Midland, TX, Aug. 25, Sept. 8
WCPO, Cincinnati, OH, Sept. 3, 4, 12
WENY, Corning, NY, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10
WFMA, Tampa Bay, FL, Sept. 10
WIBA, Madison, WI, Sept. 4, 10
WIBC, Indianapolis, IN, Sept. 8
WNJIC, Deptford, NJ, Aug. 28
WNRR, Augusta, GA, Aug. 25, Sept. 3, 8
WQSC, Charleston, SC, Aug. 27
KPRZ, San Diego, CA, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10
WROK, Aurora, IL, Aug. 25, Sept. 8
WSBA, York, PA, Sept. 4
WTKF, Morehead City, NC, Aug. 29, Sept. 5
WZIM, La Crosse, WI, Sept. 4

**Print**

The Gazette, Sept. 9
The Telegraph, Sept. 2
Time Free Press, Sept. 8
Washington Post, Aug. 28
Washington Times, Aug. 22, Sept. 8

**Internet & Twitter**

Breitbart.com, Aug. 25, 27, 30, Sept. 3, 4, 11
Canada Free Press, Sept. 3
Daily Caller, Aug. 25, Sept. 11
Drudge Report, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12
Examiner.com, Aug. 23
Forbes.com, Aug. 27
Fox 411, Aug. 29, Sept. 12
Fox News, Aug. 21, Sept. 4, 26
FoxNews.com, Aug. 22
IJR Review, Aug. 28
Impeach Nancy Pelosi, Aug. 24
LauraIngraham.com, Aug. 26
Minority Report, Aug. 24, Sept. 11
Newsmax, Aug. 27, Sept. 8
NRL News, Sept. 5
OneNewsNow, Aug. 22, Sept. 11
People’s Pundit Daily, Aug. 28, Sept. 4
PJ Media, Aug. 25, 28, Sept. 4, 10
Raw Story, Aug. 28
The American Spectator, Sept. 2
The Blaze.com, Aug. 26
Townhall.com, Aug. 28, 29, Sept. 2, 26
Twitchy, Aug. 31
Washington Examiner.com, Sept. 2
Washington Free Beacon, Sept. 9
WND, Aug. 30, Sept. 2
Yahoo! News, Sept. 10, 12

@ewerickson, 117K followers, Aug. 27
@tppatriots, 114K followers, Aug. 27
@blameleford, 28K followers, Aug. 27
@foramerica, 122K followers, Aug. 27
@tperkins, 13K followers, Sept. 3
@heritage, 443K followers, Sept. 4
@edmorrissey, 39K followers, Sept. 10
@rbpundit, 28K followers, Sept. 10
@robertbluey, 11K followers, Sept. 10
@fedsox, 20K followers, Sept. 11

**MRC in the News**

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Television

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The Media Research Center participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). MRC’s CFC number is 12489.
“What an Awesome night!!”

GALA’14
FEATURING THE DISHONORS AWARDS
Roasting the Most Outrageously Biased Liberal Reporting

Stay tuned to the November issue of The Watchdog, or Check out the DisHonors Awards video highlights at mrc.org/gala