The liberal media went after conservative Rush Limbaugh with a vengeance in October, smearing him as a racist using manufactured quotes and repeating the lie long enough to kill the talk-radio giant’s chance to bid on a football team. It was a sleazy, dirty trick. That same month, the White House took a page from the liberal media handbook to launch an attack against Fox News.

The liberal chicanery continues every day. So we document and expose it for the country to understand the left’s agenda. Fox News, which regularly uses our research and interviews our MRC experts, is under attack by the White House precisely because of its fair and balanced reporting.

When the Fox News Channel started back in 1996, it had 17 million subscribers. Today, more than 100 million people subscribe. The cable news channel consistently beats its competition — CNN, MSNBC — in the ratings game. In fact, often its numbers are better than all its cable competitors combined!

In addition to its popular news reporting programs, such as Special Report with Brett Baier, Fox’s political commentary shows draw big audiences. Glenn Beck and The O’Reilly Factor, for example, both reach more than 3 million viewers per broadcast.

The popularity of Glenn Beck soared after the show ran several hard-hitting reports on Obama’s green jobs czar, Van Jones, a self-avowed communist. After Beck reported that Jones had signed a petition calling for an investigation into the Bush administration’s alleged complicity in 9/11, Jones was forced to resign. The liberal media had largely ignored the story and then tried to spin away the resignation as insignificant.

After the ACORN scandal broke on Breitbart TV, Fox News ran numerous reports on the issue. It also documented in detail Barack Obama’s long-time association with the corrupt organization. Again, the liberal media had either ignored or downplayed the story, a fact that we documented and exposed.

Continued on page 2
Not long after Fox News’ relentless reporting on those issues, among others, the administration pounced. White House Communications Director Anita Dunn went on CNN on Oct. 12 and declared that Fox News “really is more a wing of the Republican Party. They take their talking points, put them on the air; take their opposition research, put them on the air. And that’s fine. But let’s not pretend they’re a news network the way CNN is.”

No, they’re not a network like CNN. The Cable News Network runs a lot of reporting that is favorable to the Obama administration. Fox News does not. However, several studies, including our own, have documented that when it comes to the political persuasion of news guests and the type of questions asked, Fox News is more fair and balanced than its competition.

The smear didn’t stop with Dunn. David Axelrod, the senior adviser to President Obama, went on ABC’s This Week and told host George Stephanopoulos (the former senior adviser to President Clinton), that Fox News is “really not news.”

“It’s pushing a point of view, and the bigger thing is that other news organizations like yours,” lectured Axelrod, “ought not to treat them that way. And we’re not going to treat them that way. We’re going to appear on their shows and participate, but understanding that they represent a point of view.”

In other words, liberal media outlets with liberal biases are legitimate and okay for the White House, but the tough questions and balanced reporting at Fox News are not okay.

White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel also attacked. He went on CNN and repeated the administration’s talking point that Fox News is “not a news organization so much as it has a perspective,” adding that CNN and other (read: liberal) media should not “be led and following Fox.”

The White House also set up a “Reality Check” Web site page that posts items supposedly geared to expose “the lies of Fox News.” Hugo Chavez and Fidel Castro would be proud.

The administration’s attacks on Fox News mirror those of the liberal media, which repeatedly insult and smear the cable channel and its viewers. CNN’s Jack Cafferty, for example, has called Fox News the “F-Word Network,” opined that “the dumb ones watch Fox,” and described the station as a “safe haven” for Republicans.

MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann says that Fox News viewers are “tin foil hatters, conspiracy theorists, paranoids and racists.” Rick Sanchez at CNN actually reported that the killer of three police officers in Pittsburgh was driven to it “after no doubt watching Fox News and listening to right-wing radio.”

There are countless attacks, and we are not immune from them.

MSNBC regularly smears the MRC. On his Oct. 27 broadcast, for example, Ed Schultz puts yours truly in his “Psycho Talk” segment, ranting, “Halloween week continues with ‘Bozo the Clown,’ Brent Bozell. I tell you, this guy is a piece of work.” He went on to mock the MRC and insult me for daring to claim that Fox News Channel reports the news correctly — in other words, without a left-wing bias. For that, I engaged in “psycho talk.”

This is what the liberal media are doing now: personal attacks, smears, insults, lies. The White House is doing some of the same in its assault on Fox News. In their left-leaning mind, the ends justify the means.

Clearly, we are having an impact, as is Fox News and the new media in general. We must continue to expose liberal media bias and spread the truth. With your help, we can take the fight to them — and win.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President
An MRC Special Report about the liberal media’s cheerleading for socialized medicine was quoted on the floor of the House of Representatives, proving once again that the MRC’s work is vital and effective in the national debate over an issue that affects literally every American.

As Congressman Lamar Smith (R-Texas) said on the House floor on Oct. 20: “Network news programs have favored proponents of the administration’s health care proposal over critics of the plan by a margin of more than 2-to-1, according to the [MRC’s] Business & Media Institute. The White House, like the national media, should let the American people make up their own minds — not try to control what they hear.” Smith was quoting from the MRC’s Business & Media Institute Special Report, “Uncritical Condition: Network News Fails to Examine Cost and Proven Failures of Government-Run Health Care.”

The study was written by BMI’s Julia Seymour, who documented how ABC, CBS, and NBC have slanted their morning and evening news shows to promote ObamaCare.

The study analyzed 224 news reports and proved that stories on the networks favored supporters of Obama’s brand of so-called health care reform to its critics by a whopping margin of more than 2-to-1 (243 supporters to 104 critics).

ABC, CBS, and NBC all downplayed the multi-trillion dollar costs of the Senate and House versions of ObamaCare and also grossly inflated the number of uninsured to 50 million. The real number is 12 million.

ABC was the worst offender, relying on its paid correspondent Dr. Tim Johnson for “news” updates. Johnson is essentially a paid propagandist, an outspoken and long-time supporter of government-run, single-payer health care a la Canada and Britain. He doesn’t have an objective bone in his body.

The three networks did mention that the big government health care being pushed by liberals in Congress is “similar to Medicare” — but only in 11 stories. On top of that, neither ABC, CBS, nor NBC noted that Medicare itself is bankrupt, with unfunded financial outlays today of $38 trillion.

CNSNews.com Interview with Congressman Kennedy Sparks National Coverage and Sharp Denouncement from Bishop

Congressman Patrick Kennedy (D-R.I.), son of the late Ted Kennedy, put his foot in his mouth, as he is wont to do, when the MRC’s CNSNews.com interviewed him on video on Capitol Hill. Among other incendiary things, Kennedy said that by not supporting the Democrats’ socialized health care plan, the Catholic Church was not really pro-life and was “fanning the flames of dissent and discord.”

Kennedy’s remarks trashing the Catholic Church’s opposition to health care funding of abortion sparked widespread coverage on television, on radio, across the Internet and even in the establishment liberal media, such as the New York Times and the Boston Globe.

Millions of people heard the story and Kennedy’s own bishop in Rhode Island was so outraged he issued a public statement denouncing Kennedy as “irresponsible and ignorant” and a continuing “disappointment to the Catholic Church.”

You can watch the MRC’s interview of Kennedy from Oct. 22 by visiting the CNSNews.com Web site and clicking on the CNS News TV section, or by just searching for “Patrick Kennedy” on the MRC Web site.

The story spread like wildfire across the Internet, as well as on television and in print. A Google search will pull up 718,000 links to the story, meaning that the story is either posted or cited on that many Web sites or blogs, reaching millions of people in the United States and abroad.

A short list of some of the media impact of this MRC/CNSNews.com exclusive includes:

- Rush Limbaugh Show
- Sean Hannity Show
- Mark Levin Show
- Fox News
- New York Times
- National Review
- Baltimore Sun
- Boston Herald
- Boston Globe
- Associated Press
- Kansas City-Star
- Politico
- UPI
- Salon.com
- LifeSiteNews.com
- GOPUSA.com
- ABC6 TV
- NBC 10 TV (Providence)

NBC 2 TV News
Fox Nation
WPRI (Providence)
Palm Beach Post
Washington Examiner
The Hill.com
New York Daily News
Catholic News Agency
India Times
Townhall.com
Free Republic
Catholic News Service
Canadian Press
Providence Journal-Bulletin
Broadcast News
Indianapolis Star
Daily Telegraph
- Partial Listing
Joe Joke

Newsweek loves Vice President Joe Biden and proved it, once again, by running an Oct. 19 cover story entitled, “Why Joe is No Joke,” and then printing only positive letters about him in the following issue. Letters in the section hailed Biden’s “valiant voice of sanity,” and praised him for choosing “a life of service to this nation.” But then Newsweek ran a chart of its viewer mail, noting that, for the Biden letters, only 25 percent were positive, 25 percent were neutral, and a whopping 50 percent critical. But they didn’t print any of the negative ones. This is the same “news” magazine that published an insulting cover story in 2005 on how President George W. Bush was isolated within a bubble of people who agreed with him.

Shhhh!

While news broke on Oct. 30 about an ongoing ethics investigation involving five powerful Democrats and two Republicans, all three of the morning network news shows that day ignored the controversy and instead focused on Halloween. Powerful Democrats such as John Murtha (Pa.), James Moran (Va.), and Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), for example, are under investigation for steering $200 million in special projects to a lobbying firm, PMA Group, one of whose employees funneled campaign contributions to some of the lawmakers.

But not a word from ABC’s Good Morning America, CBS’s The Early Show, or NBC’s Today. Instead, NBC’s hosts found time to dress up as Star Wars characters. CBS’s Harry Smith dressed in drag as former TV chef Julia Child for a cooking segment. And, although it was October, ABC promoted a new version of A Christmas Carol.

Washington Com-Post

The Washington Post labels itself an “Independent Newspaper” on its editorial page, but as the Nov. 3 election approached The Post endorsed Democratic candidates in 25 out of 29 races in Virginia.

Yes, that seems reasonable, The Post backing Democrats running for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, as well as 22 other slots in the House of Delegates.

This is the same Post that went after GOP senatorial candidate George Allen in 2006 for calling a heckler “macaca.” Leading up to that election day, The Post published 112 news stories and editorials blasting Allen about “macaca” and then claiming, without evidence, that he once used the N-word in college in the 1970s and hearsay that he had stuffed deer heads into the mailboxes of black folks. The Post never proved anything, just milked the “macaca” word endlessly and smeared Allen all the way to the ballot box.

Sam-spin

How intellectually vapid and dishonest is Sam Tannenhaus, author of The Death of Conservatism, which the liberal media are frequently quoting? Well, Tannenhaus, who is the editor of the New York Times Book Review, was on PBS’s Charlie Rose show on Oct. 28, where he argued that former Trotskyite-turned-conservative James Burnham was a strong critic of excessive presidential power – “Caesariam” – and then prophesied which Republican presidents probably were guilty of this excess.

“We had three presidents in those three instances – Nixon, Reagan, and Bush – who committed impeachable offenses probably,” lectured Tannenhaus. “And we had Democratic presidents who seemed to understand the limitations of power.”

Tannenhaus didn’t elaborate on why the Republicans “probably” were guilty and he, no surprise, skipped mentioning the Democratic president who actually was impeached: Bill Clinton.

What Deficit?

When it was released on Oct. 7, CBS Evening News anchor Katie Couric completely ignored the Congressional Budget Office’s report that the federal deficit had reached $1.4 trillion since Barack Obama
Former President George W. Bush hitting the circuit as a motivational speaker is a “Halloween prank, you know, like toilet-papering somebody’s house,” smirks MSNBC’s Chris Matthews.

The “Balloon Boy” wasted law enforcement resources but, huffs NYT’s Frank Rich, “at least it didn’t lead the country into fiasco the way George W. Bush’s flyboy spectacle on an aircraft carrier helped beguile most of the Beltway press and too much of the public into believing that the mission had been accomplished in Iraq.” As for the New York-23 race, Frank Rich also barked, “The battle for upstate New York confirms just how swiftly the right has devolved into a wacky, paranoid cult that is as eager to eat its own as to destroy Obama.”

CBS’s Bob Scheiffer gushes, “Michelle Obama took it to another level as she set records as the first First Lady to run barefoot across the White House lawn. She also became the first to jump rope there.” NPR’s Nina Totenberg whines that the Bush White House “was much more like the Mob” toward the media, “just cut people dead, it froze them out.” After Dick Cheney criticized Obama on Afghanistan, MSNBC’s David Shuster intones, “What do you think he is after here, assuming that he is of some sort of rational, healthy mind?” Former Washington Post Editor Leonard Downie Jr. lectures that “American society must now take some collective responsibility for supporting news reporting — as society has, at much greater expense, for public education, health care, scientific advancement and cultural preservation.”

MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann rants that Michelle Malkin is full of “fascistic hatred” and looks like a “mashed-up bag of meat with lipstick on it.” Rush Limbaugh nailed it in The Wall Street Journal: “There is a contempt in the news business, including the sportswriter community, for conservatives that reflects the blind hatred espoused by Messrs. Sharpton and Jackson. ‘Racism’ is too often their sledgehammer.”
Rush Limbaugh was convicted of racism in a kangaroo court of “objective” media and dropped as a potential owner of the St. Louis Rams football franchise. His accusers claimed he once said slavery “had its merits” and that the assassin of Martin Luther King deserved a “Medal of Honor.” The story circulated on the Internet and was eventually picked up by the major media, including both CNN and MSNBC.

But no one bothered fact-checking. In fact, his accusers and those media that repeated the accusations never stopped to ponder there was no need to fact-check this, so obvious were the fabrications.

Start with this reality: One could clearly dismiss these quotes as fabrications based on the simple fact that Rush would never have uttered them, since he doesn’t believe them. Period.

Add to it this second piece of common sense: Were Rush guilty of uttering this garbage back in 1998, would we really be discussing it for the first time in October of 2009? Common sense tells us that if he made these comments on his show, his advertisers would dump him so quickly he’d be out of a job by sundown.

Let’s give the media a break and conclude that when it comes to Rush Limbaugh, they just have no common sense. Fine. That’s where fact-checking comes in. A couple of minutes on the computer would have proven that these quotes were pure fantasy, put forward by radical leftists, with no substantiation whatsoever, purely to assassinate this man’s character, as is their wont.

But the Left – including many in the “news” media – is so blinded by its hatred of Rush Limbaugh that it will accept any accusation as authentic, and the more salacious, the better.

Start with CNN. This network is so proud of its professionalism that it fact-checks comedy skits on Saturday Night Live. Clearly it needs to focus less on the accusations never stopped to ponder there was no need to fact-check this, so obvious were the fabrications.

On Monday October 12, afternoon anchor Rick Sanchez showed his expertise at hit-and-run journalism by repeating the “slavery had its merits” quote as fact, with no effort whatsoever to authenticate it before moving on. When it was made clear that no authentication existed, and an apology was in order, instead Sanchez made matters worse. The following day again he read the offensive fabrication, but this time added Limbaugh’s denial, “to be fair to Rush,” thus keeping alive the possibility that the accusation was truthful. On Friday, four days after they broadcast a falsehood, Sanchez finally delivered an apology.

MSNBC was even worse. They kept pushing the fake quotes even after it was apparent to everyone that they had not been substantiated. Their on-screen citation for the slavery quote was even sillier. It wasn’t a newspaper. It was a linebacker: “Cited by James Farrior, Pittsburgh Steelers.” After sliming Limbaugh from Monday to Thursday, on Friday MSNBC’s David Shuster finally acknowledged they needed to “clarify” their sloppiness: “MSNBC attributed that quote to a football player who was opposed to Limbaugh’s NFL bid. However, we have been unable to verify that quote independently. So, just to clarify.” No retraction, no apology.

Earth to MSNBC: the best time to verify your quotes is before you broadcast them across the nation for four days. But that would have hurt MSNBC’s pressure on the NFL to dump Rush. “Clarifications” can wait until the damage is done.

These cable networks were not alone. Newspapers from USA Today to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch published these howlers from sportswriters, and liberal talk-radio hosts put the lies in heavy rotation. Washington Post sportswriter Michael Wilbon spewed the phony slavery quote on his ESPN show “Pardon the Interruption.” That show could now be called “Pardon the Fabrication.”

Now match this war on Limbaugh with the White House’s war on Fox News, and what you see is a blatant campaign by the Left to “delegitimize” conservative talkers and alternative media outlets. Is there anything that sounds more hermetically sealed in a liberal bubble than claiming Fox News is not a “legitimate” news network because it reports information with a “perspective”? If there’s anything more bizarre in the last week than watching Al Sharpton attack anyone else for being “racially divisive,” it’s watching David Axelrod complain to George Stephanopoulos that the news shouldn’t come with a partisan “perspective.”

Team Obama’s idea of “straight news” is that which goes straight from Rahm Emanuel’s cellphone into Stephanopoulos’s mouth. Team Obama’s idea of news without “perspective” is Brian Williams broadcasting publicity stunts like Obama buying hamburgers for his staff and the “news” of the day is how many apples can be spotted at the White House.

The only thing in their way is the emerging alternative media, which is why they’re out to destroy Rush Limbaugh.
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, Oct. 12
- **CNN**: The Situation Room, Oct. 16, 30
- **FNC**: Glenn Beck, Oct. 7
  - Hannity, Oct. 20
  - Fox & Friends, Oct. 3, 8, 17
  - The O’Reilly Factor, Oct. 2
  - Special Report, Oct. 15
- **FBN**: Fox Business Live, Oct. 20
- **MSNBC**: Hardball, Oct. 23

**Print**

- **Washington Times**: Oct. 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 26
- **Kansas City-Star**: Oct. 21
- **Human Events**: Oct. 21
- **United News**: Oct. 23
- **Charleston Gazette**: Oct. 18
- **Washington Examiner**: Oct. 11
- **Canada Free Press**: Oct. 9, 13
- **Pittsburgh Tribune-Review**: Oct. 12, 24
- **Post-Chronicle**: Oct. 14
- **National Review**: Nov. 2
- **Telegraph-Herald**: Oct. 11
- **National Catholic Register**: Oct. 5
- **San Jose Mercury News**: Oct. 28

**Internet**

- **Human Events Online**: Oct. 22
- ** Medianite.com**: Oct. 31
- **FoxNews.com**: Oct. 22
- **HotAir.com**: Oct. 13
- **NBCSports.com**: Oct. 12
- **OneNewsNow.com**: Oct. 13, 26
- **RushLimbaugh.com**: Oct. 13
- **The Atlantic Wire**: Oct. 14
- **WSJ.com**: Oct. 14, 15
- **MichelleMalkin.com**: Oct. 15
- **NRO “The Corner”**: Oct. 15
- **ESPN.com**: Oct. 14
- **Media News International**: Oct. 16
- **Townhall.com**: Oct. 29
- **Gawker**: Oct. 21
- **Media Channel**: Oct. 29
- **PoliGazette**: Oct. 21
- **Washington Independent**: Oct. 29
- **Catholic Online**: Oct. 20
- **Heritage.org**: Oct. 19

**On MSNBC’s Hardball, CNSNews.com Editor Terry Jeffrey detailed why anti-Communists were right and won the Cold War, and why President George W. Bush and V.P. Dick Cheney merited an award for keeping America safe after 9/11.**

**On Fox & Friends, MRC President Brent Bozell explained why the liberal media resorted to character assassination and smeared Rush Limbaugh with manufactured quotes.**

**MRC Communications Director Seton Motley was interviewed on Fox’s Glenn Beck about the liberal “Free Press” group’s agenda to regulate conservative talk radio into near-silence.**

**Fox News’ Special Report, which reaches nearly 3 million viewers, cited the MRC’s research on the liberal smear attacks against Rush Limbaugh.**
Better Off Red?
Twenty Years After the Fall of the Berlin Wall, Recalling the Liberal Media’s Blindness to the Evils of Communism

Twenty years ago the Berlin Wall fell, tearing down the Iron Curtain that had sliced Europe in half since the end of World War II. Barely two years later, the Soviet Union itself disintegrated, ending the Cold War. Yet before, during and after those momentous events two decades ago, many in the liberal media continuously whitewashed the true nature of communism, or suggested free-market capitalism was somehow worse.

Check out the bias the MRC compiled over the last 22 years which demonstrates how some liberal journalists utterly failed to accurately depict communism as one of the worst evils of the 20th century, and often aimed their fire at those who were fighting communism rather than those who were perpetuating it. Visit: www.mediaresearch.org/SpecialReports/welcome.asp