

The Watchdog

THE MRC'S MONTHLY MEMBERS' REPORT



CREATING A MEDIA CULTURE WHERE TRUTH AND LIBERTY FLOURISH IN AMERICA

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New MRC Special Report Shows That Americans Believe Liberal Media Are Undermining America's Moral Values

Dear Friend,

The MRC's Culture and Media Institute has released a new Special Report documenting how the vast majority of Americans blame the liberal media for the decline in America's moral values. The report, *The Media Assault on American Values*, is the second in a four-part series on personal responsibility from the Culture and Media Institute, an MRC division launched only eight months ago – not bad for a staff of four, which put out their first Special Report on March 7.

The Culture and Media Institute (CMI) released the report at a seminar on June 6 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C. The keynote speaker was best-selling author, movie critic, columnist, and nationally syndicated talk-radio host Michael Medved. CMI's study proves "that those who describe themselves as 'heavy' TV viewers (4 hours or more a day) embrace distinctly liberal attitudes on a range of crucial issues, placing them well to the left of those who report 'light' TV viewing (1 hour a day)," said Medved.

The well-attended event generated extensive media coverage, reaching millions of Americans through stories in *U.S. News & World Report*, the Associated Press, CBS News.com, other news outlets, and complete coverage on C-SPAN 3. This was all made possible,

thankfully, due to the generous supporters of the MRC.

Summing up the report, CMI Director Robert Knight told *The Washington Times*, "In a nutshell, people who watch more TV tend to want less personal responsibility and more government action, particularly with regard to retirement and health care. They also tend to be less charitable or honest."

The report's findings were based on the National Cultural Values Survey, which CMI conducted with the highly respected polling firm Fabrizio, McLaughlin & Associates. The results are alarming and confirm much of what the MRC has been documenting in

other ways for years: The major news media and the entertainment industry in Hollywood are liberal/left and their political and moral biases run against the moral values of most Americans – and, over time, this corrosive liberalism can negatively influence individuals and the nation.

Some of the report's findings include the following:

- 74 percent of Americans believe the nation's moral values have declined over the past 20 years, and large majorities hold the media responsible for contributing to that decline.

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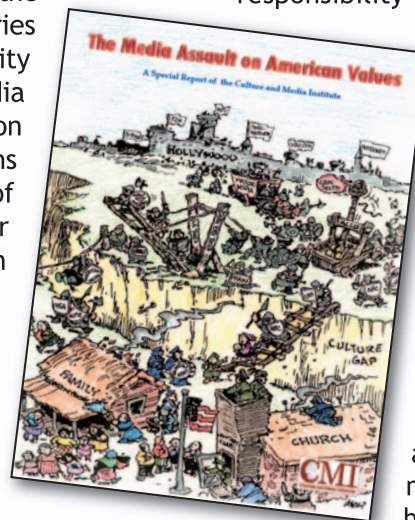
MRC in the News

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How You Can Help
the MRC Fight
Liberal Media Bias



www.MRC.org





Author, film critic, and talk-radio host Michael Medved gave the keynote address at the June 6 seminar for the release of the MRC's Culture and Media Institute Special Report, *The Media's Assault on American Values*. Medved concluded that increased TV viewing correlates with less acceptance of personal responsibility.



CMI's new report is vital to understanding the liberal media's assault on America's values.

You can read the entire report on our Web site at

www.cultureandmediainstitute.org.

Or, call the CMI office at (703) 683-9733 to request a copy.

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- 73 percent of Americans say Hollywood has a negative impact on moral values and 54 percent say the news media have a negative impact on moral values.
- Only 7 percent of Americans think Hollywood has a positive impact, and only 11 percent think the news media have a positive effect.
- The more a person watches TV, the less likely he will be to accept responsibility for his own life and for his obligations to people around him.
- 64 percent of "heavy" TV watchers think the government should provide retirement benefits to Americans while only 43 percent of "light" viewers think that way.
- 63 percent of "heavy" TV viewers prefer government health care to private health care – only 48 percent of "light" viewers think the same.
- 51 percent of "light" TV viewers say they are pro-life while only 37 percent of "heavy" TV watchers describe themselves as pro-life.
- The media appear to be undermining commitment to religion. The more a person watches TV, the less likely he is to value religious principles.
- 47 percent of "light" TV viewers attend church at least once a week, compared with only 28 percent of "heavy" TV watchers.

The most telling finding from the study is that increased TV viewing correlates with less acceptance of personal responsibility. The more time people spend watching TV, the less likely they are to accept personal responsibility for their own lives.

That correlation is key to liberalism and the agenda of the liberal media. As Michael Medved explained in his June 13 column, based on the report: "The isolation associated with hours and hours in front of the tube leads to liberal values and viewpoints. In every election, single people prove vastly more likely to vote for Democrats than do married people. ... People who see themselves as alone in the world, with no spouses or fellow congregants, frequently turn to government as a source of support and comfort – just as they'd turn to television as a source of phony companionship. It makes sense that loneliness and helplessness and disconnection would breed both liberalism and heavy TV viewing; just as a vibrant family life, and communal participation, would produce less television viewing and more conservative self-reliance."

The liberal news media and Hollywood are hell-bent on reshaping America in their liberal image. This report shows that many Americans are wise to this game but also that much damage has been done and continues to affect our children, and will affect future generations. It is a constant battle. CMI's report and the daily work here at the MRC is a bulwark against the liberal media. Let's keep on the attack!

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President

Networks and Top Newspapers Ignore Al-Qaeda Torture Photos

Yet Top Media Ran More than 6,000 Stories on Abu Ghraib Abuses

The networks – ABC, CBS, NBC – and top newspapers such as *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* completely ignored recently declassified photos that reveal the shocking nature of Al-Qaeda's torture methods and several of its Iraqi victims. These are the same powerful liberal media who ran countless stories about the abuse of some prisoners at Abu Ghraib by a handful of American guards.

This blackout by the most powerful media in the United States shows how liberally biased they are and how hypocritical they are when it comes to human rights. It also reveals their willful denial of the nature of warfare in Iraq – what the enemy is really like and what the Iraqi people face in greater measure should the American military withdraw too soon.

The U.S. Defense Department released the Al-Qaeda torture photos on May 23. The photos, obtained from an Al-Qaeda "safe house" in Iraq showed various torture tools—blow torches, meat cleavers, hammers,

electric drills, metal files, vises – drawings of torture methods, and photos of actual victims found in another house in Karmah, Iraq, who had been burned, mutilated, and tortured in myriad ways.

To their credit, CNN and Fox News Channel ran stories on the declassified material – CNN on May 23, Fox on May 25. Yet days after those stories broke, and now weeks later, the networks and the top papers haven't touched the story. When photos of the prisoners at Abu Ghraib surfaced, showing partially clothed captives stacked in pyramids and other humiliating poses, the U.S. and international media went ballistic, running stories around the clock for days and months – more than 6,000 news stories.

"Where are the liberal media now?" asked MRC President Brent Bozell in a May 31 press release. "Will they not show the American people what Al-Qaeda is actually doing in Iraq right now? Whose side are they on?"



Declassified drawings and victim-photos uncovered in Iraq, and ignored by the networks and top newspapers, reveal the horrifying nature of Al-Qaeda's torture tactics.



How the Liberal Media Said Goodbye to Jerry Falwell (1933-2007)



"And now, new rule, death isn't always sad." – Bill Maher, HBO's *Real Time*, May 18

"I think it's a pity there isn't a hell for him to go to. ... The empty life of this ugly little charlatan Such a little toad This horrible little person I'm glad to see he skipped the rapture, just found on the floor of his office."

– *Vanity Fair* Contributing Editor Christopher Hitchens on CNN's *Anderson Cooper 360*, May 15

"At a time like this, people deserve sympathy and good wishes ... except for Falwell, who is an evil sonofabitch." – Wonkette.com blog, May 15

"The gates of Hell swing open and Satan welcomes his beloved son."

– Amanda Marcotte, former official blogger for John Edwards' presidential campaign, Pandagon blog, May 15

"The reaction from the reporters? Grins and chuckles mostly. One grizzled veteran journalist said, 'I hope they (CNN) remember all the horrible things he said.' Another reporter simply said, 'It is a good day.'"

– A congressional press gallery reporter e-mails National Review Online about gallery reporters' reactions to Falwell's death, May 15

"My very first thought upon hearing of the Rev. Falwell's passing was: Good. And I didn't mean 'good' in a oh-good-he's-gone-home-to-be-with-the-Lord kind of way. I meant 'good' as in 'Ding-dong, the witch is dead.'"

– *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist Cathleen Falsani, May 18

Bits & Pieces



On the May 30 *The Early Show*, CBS's uber-liberal Harry Smith tried to pin a "Gore 2008" presidential campaign button on Al Gore.

CBS: Gore, Run!

The Early Show's Harry Smith revealed his liberal true colors again in his May 30 interview with former Vice President Al Gore. Smith essentially stumped for Gore in the so-called interview, allowing the global-warming crusader to prattle on with his Democratic talking points — Smith just kept saying, "right, right." Then Smith asked Gore about supporting the European Union's push to reduce carbon emissions, adding, "If you were president, you would have probably signed on."

At that moment, Smith pulled out a "Gore 2008" presidential campaign pin and tried to pin it on Gore. "Do you mind?" Smith asked, with Gore gushing "no, no." Smith happily remarked, "There you go. You can hold it. ... Here, let's see what it looks like. ... All right, all right. Save that in a freeze frame."

NBC's Gore-ageous Bias

NBC Universal will use its various networks to broadcast 75 hours of Al Gore's "Live Earth" rock concerts on July 7. These "Concerts for a Climate in Crisis" are nothing more than global-warming propaganda venues for Gore and his cohorts to press

climate-change hysteria. They also constitute one of the largest liberal media-sponsored in-kind contributions to a presidential candidate, should Gore decide to run.

The hours of concert coverage will appear on NBC, CNBC, Bravo, Sundance channel, Universal HD channel, mun2 and Telemundo. NBC Universal executive Jeff Gaspin declared, "We will reach millions of viewers with this important call to action to combat global warming." Live Earth's producer, Kevin Wall, cheered that with "NBC Universal's sweeping coverage ... Americans from coast to coast will be able to tune in to the concerts and take action against the climate crisis."

NBC Smears Rush

In a vicious attempt to smear Rush Limbaugh as a racist—and get the ball rolling to have him taken off the air — NBC's *Today* relied on a left-wing group's false claims to broadcast a story about Limbaugh's "Barack the Magic Negro" song. The song is satire,



NBC's Matt Lauer not-so-subtly tarred Rush Limbaugh as a racist on the May 21 *Today* show.

a political parody of Rev. Al Sharpton criticizing Sen. Barack Obama. NBC's Matt Lauer, in the May 21 story, nonetheless wondered: Is Rush "getting a free pass?" In other words, Don Imus was fired, why not Rush?

Today did report, correctly, that Limbaugh borrowed the "Barack" phrase from a column in the *Los Angeles Times*, written by a black journalist. *Today* also noted that Sen. Obama had not objected to the song, nor had Sharpton. But *Today* spent the bulk of the story interviewing critics of Limbaugh and raising questions about Limbaugh's intent. As NBC reporter Michael Okwu hammered, "Legitimate satire, or something darker?"

Cuba Likes CNN

The media censors in communist Cuba like CNN in Spanish, revealed Havana-based CBS News producer Portia Seligbaum. In explaining the resources used by Cuba's state media, Seligbaum, in a May 31 post on CBS's "Public Eye" blog disclosed: "The Cuban media is basically an information service of the government. Especially in domestic news. What the Cuban media does do is they cover world news.

"You will see CNN in Spanish stories in the Cuban television news at night. They'll take CNN in Spanish, they'll take Spanish TV. ... In terms of domestic news, the source is the Cuban government, or Cuban government ministry functionaries, and they're feeding information to their press." It's no wonder CNN is often called the Communist News Network.

'Scary' Tom Tancredo

Good Morning America co-anchor Chris Cuomo, the son of former Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo, ripped into conservative Congressman Tom Tancredo (R-CO) on June 8, questioning why he would dare question the then-pending immigration bill. ABC's Cuomo hit Tancredo about why he was "driving anti-immigrant sentiment" and "Why do you feel the need to rip a bill like this down?"

Cuomo also wondered why Tancredo was being inhumane, slyly asking: "A majority of Americans want a humane solution. The numbers are in favor of giving some type of amnesty to these people. Isn't that the humane solution? Why are you

so adamantly opposed to it?” Cuomo went on to lecture Tancredo about his “scary” words: “You’re in favor of the 700-mile fence. You use, frankly, a scary word like balkanization as a result of what could have come about from a bill like this.”

Gasp! A Museum!

While Rosie O’Donnell used ABC’s own airwaves to spout nonsense about 9/11 conspiracies, ABC’s *Good Morning America*, was troubled that the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky, tells visitors the Biblical story of God’s creation. “Critics say it is harmful to schoolchildren,” teased



On the May 25 *Good Morning America*, ABC’s Dan Harris fretted that a creation-history museum in Kentucky might give children a non-secular view of mankind’s origins.

co-host Robin Roberts on the May 25 broadcast. “Harmful? So why? Here’s a hint: It depicts a world where dinosaurs had company in the form of two of the most famous Biblical characters,” Adam and Eve, “so that always causes a bit of controversy.”

ABC reporter Dan Harris fretted, “Mainstream scientists worry that because this museum is so sophisticated it will be more effective at giving children a distorted view of science.” Back in 1999, a New York City art museum showcased an exhibit featuring a portrait of the Virgin Mary surrounded by elephant dung and cutouts from pornographic magazines. But then the media only saw a threat to free speech if the artist or museum were deprived of public funds.

‘Hope’ Destroyed

Like his ABC colleague Chris Cuomo, *World News Tonight* anchor Charles Gibson could barely hold back the tears as he reported on June 9 that with the defeat of the immigration-compromise bill “hope” itself was also crushed. “Immigration bust,” harped Gibson, “Is there still hope for immigration reform after a highly touted deal falls apart? Many had hopes for the compromise.”



World News Tonight anchor Charles Gibson barely held back the tears when reporting on the failed immigration-compromise bill on June 9.

Then, turning to correspondent George Stephanopoulos, Gibson lamented: “The left and the right opposed it. So you’ve got this polarization that killed the bill, and also the President’s strength wasn’t enough to keep it alive.”

Stephanopoulos blamed “conservative Republicans” who “thought” the program was amnesty--“they killed the bill.” That led Gibson to somberly whine: “So it makes you wonder, right now, the way things stand, if our political system is really equipped to attack and solve the big problems?” (Or wonder whether the national media can accurately and fairly report the big problems?)

Minibits

■ CBS’s **Katie Couric** gushes, “He was once called ‘Mr. Stiff.’ Now he’s known as ‘The Goreacle,’ the new Al Gore. ...Sharyn Alfonsi reports on Gore 2.0.” ■ *Newsweek*’s **Jonathan Alter** bellows that, in signing the compromise bill on Iraq war funding, President Bush is “signing the death warrants of young men and women.” ■ MSNBC’s **Keith Olbermann** echoes Alter, declaring, “The Democratic leadership has agreed to finance the deaths of Americans in a war that has only reduced the security of Americans.” ■ *Time* magazine’s ‘Ten Questions’ section serves this to Rep. Tom Tancredo: “Why do you hate Mexicans?” ■ File in the ‘No Duh’ Department, MSNBC’s **Chris Matthews** in talking immigration declares: “I don’t want to be the conservative here. I’m not comfortable playing that role.” ■ **Helen Thomas** rips Ronald Reagan: He “was a social Darwinist. ‘If you can’t make it, tough.’ You know, survival of the fittest. ... I think that the poor did not prosper under him at all.” ■ Yet for Bill and Hillary Clinton, **Helen Thomas** weeps, “I think the Clintons suffered a lot.” ■ **Dan Rather**, a la Walter Cronkite, tells MSNBC’s *Morning Joe* that Iraq is a “strategic catastrophe of historic proportions.” ■ Bush and Cheney are “going to go down in history as having presided over one of the worst administrations in American history,” actor **Ben Affleck** prophesies on *Hardball*. ■ CNN’s **Jack Cafferty** absurdly asks: “The question is this: Is President Bush reigniting the Cold War with Russia?” ■ **Bryant Gumbel** reveals on *Live with Regis & Kelly* that he “was correct” to have once called the MRC’s Robert Knight “a f***ing idiot.” ■ Finally, one more from **Rosie O’Donnell**: “I just want to say something. 655,000 Iraqi civilians are dead. Who are the terrorists?”



On the *CBS Evening News*, anchor Katie Couric gushes about the “new” Al Gore, “The Goreacle.”

CNSNews.com

CNSNews.com: The Guts to Report the News Others Won't



David Thibault,
CNSNews.com
Editor-in-Chief

There are touchy subjects, to be sure – topics to be respectfully avoided at social gatherings. But, not so with the news. Responsible journalism requires reporting an important story even when the topic is radioactive. And, that's something the left-wing media just don't get.

Take the story of Lila Rose, an 18-year old sophomore at the University of California-Los Angeles who walked into a local Planned Parenthood clinic posing as a 15-year old impregnated by her 23-year-old boyfriend. Lila secretly videotaped a counselor encouraging her to lie about her age so she could get an abortion without the clinic having to report her statutory rape to the police.

Here is a counselor encouraging, and offering to help, what she believes is an underage girl to break the law (California requires clinics to report statutory rape to police) so that the clinic can more easily sell her an abortion. One counselor is even caught on tape telling Lila that she gave birth 16 years ago and that the decision not to have an abortion ruined her life.

So, where were ABC, NBC, and CBS? Where were *Nightline*, *20/20*, and *60 Minutes*, all of which make their names by exposing such scandals? No one had the guts to touch the story – until CNSNews.com Staff Writer Nathan Burchfiel wrote the first of his three articles on the Lila Rose story on May 11, 2007. And, still, no one in the establishment media was willing to report the story.

Four days later, Nathan obtained a copy of a "cease and desist" letter from Planned Parenthood threatening to sue Lila if she didn't stop her investigations, pull her video from YouTube.com, and surrender all copies to the abortion provider. Before the video was pulled from YouTube.com, Nathan downloaded a copy and posted it on CNSNews.com within his story.

This time, things began to happen. Fox News Channel's Brit Hume reported the story that evening, citing CNSNews.com, and the next day the story appeared in National Review Online. Michelle Malkin, Bill O'Reilly, and the *Washington Times* followed suit – and, on May 17, Nathan appeared on Fox News Channel's *Hannity & Colmes* program to discuss his story.

Nathan's coverage of the Lila Rose story, and his subsequent report on a teen suing a Planned Parenthood

affiliate in Ohio for failing to report that she had been raped by her father, prompted U.S. Rep. Jean Schmidt (R-OH) to express her sorrow and outrage over the scandals. "When these young girls reach out for help from a group that claims to be pro-woman and get none, my feelings turn to outrage. Young girls... are, instead being victimized," Schmidt said.

And, still not a single member of the liberal media would even acknowledge the Planned Parenthood scandal – except for one lone blog on Salon.com, which vilified Lila's "entrapment" of Planned Parenthood while declaring, "There isn't exactly news here."

So, why are the establishment media so bound and determined to protect the actions of Planned Parenthood? Is it because these are just two isolated aber-

rations in Planned Parenthood's otherwise spotless history? Not if you believe Life Dynamics, which claims to have over 800 tape recordings of Planned Parenthood and National Abortion Federation counselors encouraging a woman posing as a 13-year old to lie in order to obtain an abortion. Nathan reported Life Dynamics' sting and linked to the group's audio clips of the taped conversations in his May 16 follow-up story.

Maybe the liberal media are ignoring Planned Parenthood's scandals out of allegiance to its leftist ideology, fearing that the bad press would tarnish the

public's view of abortion rights.

But, let's be clear here: There's a big difference between being "pro-abortion rights" and being "pro-abortion" – and Planned Parenthood is clearly the latter. Planned Parenthood pays the bills by selling abortions. It's a business, and this death merchant's marketing efforts have made it the number one provider of abortions in the United States.

The establishment media zealously vilify cigarette manufacturers for encouraging people to buy a legal product that might, after 30 years of use, cause lung cancer. But, Planned Parenthood works to ensure that as many lungs as possible never draw their first breath. So, who has the guts to report the story when this big business crosses the line in pursuit of higher profits?

CNSNews.com, that's who.



On Fox's *Hannity & Colmes*, CNSNews.com reporter Nathan Burchfiel detailed how a Planned Parenthood counselor encouraged a woman, undercover as a minor, to lie about her age to get an abortion, which would protect Planned Parenthood from having to report her pregnancy as caused by statutory rape.

MRC in the 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

FNC:

- Fox & Friends*, June 5, 14, 2007
- Your World with Neil Cavuto*, May 27, 29
- Hannity & Colmes*, May 17, 24, June 4
- Fox News Live*, May 24

C-SPAN 3: June 8

Coral Ridge Ministries: May 13

CBN: *NewsWatch*, May 29

Radio

- Dateline, June 5
- National Public Radio, June 5
- Moody Broadcast, June 6
- Rush Limbaugh Show, May 29
- Dennis Miller Show, May 29
- American Family Radio, May 23, June 1, 8
- American Family News, May 15, 23
- USA Radio Network, May 25
- Radio AP Broadcast, June 6
- Catholic Connections, June 11
- Family News in Focus, June 5
- Faith Broadcasting, June 5
- WORD, Greenville, SC, June 8
- KOGO, San Diego, CA, May 23, 30
- WIBC, Indianapolis, IN, May 24, 30
- KLVI, Beaumont, TX, May 22
- KVI, Seattle, WA, May 25
- WBZA, Baltimore, MD, May 25
- WFLA, Orlando, FL, May 25
- KDKA, Pittsburgh, PA, May 28
- WTVN, Columbus, OH, May 29
- WSBA, York, PA, May 24
- WTKF, Greenville, NC, May 25, June 1
- WSAU, Wausau, WI, May 25, June 1
- KFNN, Phoenix, AZ, May 30
- WTVN, Tampa, FL, May 30
- WLW, Cincinnati, OH, May 25, June 1
- WNTA, Rockford, IL, May 23
- WKVL, Knoxville, TN, May 21
- WIBA, Madison, WI, May 14, 30



On *Fox & Friends*, MRC President Brent Bozell explains why Katie Couric is failing as anchor of *CBS Evening News*.



TimesWatch Director Clay Waters details the liberal media's pro-Hugo Chavez bias on Fox's *Your World with Neil Cavuto*.



NewsBusters Editor Matt Sheffield comments, on *Fox & Friends*, about staged stories filed by a CNN reporter.



On *Hannity & Colmes*, MRC President Brent Bozell discusses liberal media bias in coverage of the immigration bill.

- KMED, Medford, OR, May 29
- KGAB, Cheyenne, WY, June 5
- KSLR, San Antonio, TX, May 31
- WTKG, Grand Rapids, MI, June 3
- WDRG, Hartford, CT, June 15
- KFNN, Phoenix, AZ, June 5
- KMMS, Butte, MT, June 15
- WTWB, St. Petersburg, FL, June 5
- WCHS, Charleston, VA, May 29
- WBT, Charlotte, NC, May 27, June 9

~ PARTIAL LISTING

Print

- U.S. News & World Report*, June 3
- USA Today*, May 31
- Los Angeles Times*, May 31
- Wall Street Journal*, June 2
- Washington Times*, May 12, 14, 31, June 1, 4, 5, 10
- NewsMax*, June 2007
- Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, May 21, June 4
- Investor's Business Daily*, June 14
- The Politico*, May 30
- American Spectator*, May 30
- Associated Press, May 28
- Catholic News Service, June 13
- World Peace Herald*, May 14
- The Phoenix*, May 16
- Evening Bulletin*, May 30
- Christian Post*, June 7
- New Republic*, June 7
- World magazine*, June 5
- Cincinnati Enquirer*, June 5

~ PARTIAL LISTING

Internet

- USA Today.com, May 25
- CBS News.com, June 8
- CBN News.com, June 8
- Rush Limbaugh.com, May 29
- World Net Daily, May 14, 25
- CBSNews.com, May 25
- Catholic League, May 22
- Media Bistro blog, June 5
- Salon.com, June 1
- Human Events Online, June 12
- NewsMax.com, June 6
- AFA Action Alert, May 25
- GOPUSA, May 25
- Frontpagemag.com, June 1
- Accuracy in Media, June 1
- AOL Sportsblog.com, May 22
- Human Events Online, May 25
- Blogger News Network, May 25
- Newsbull blog, May 24
- Defending the Faith blog, May 22, 31
- Instapundit blog, May 31
- Little Green Footballs blog, May 31
- Blogger News Network, June 4
- Catholic Online, June 13
- TV Newser, June 13

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THE LIGHT OF TRUTH CAMPAIGN

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Or, visit us online at: www.mrc.gift-planning.org



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