



## WHAT THE SO-CALLED “LIBERAL MEDIA” IS SAYING ABOUT REPUBLICAN ETHICS PROBLEMS

**House Majority Leader Tom DeLay: “It’s just another seedy attempt by the liberal media to embarrass me.” [4/6/05]**

➤ **Wall Street Journal**

“Mr. DeLay has an ‘odor’: nothing too incriminating, nothing actually criminal, just an unsavory whiff that could have GOP loyalists reaching for the political Glade if it gets any worse... Whether Mr. DeLay violated the small print of House Ethics or campaign-finance rules is thus largely beside the point. His real fault lies in betraying the broader set of principles that brought him into office, and which, if he continues as before, sooner or later will sweep him out.” [3/28/05]

➤ **The Economist**

“...even without a smoking gun, Mr. DeLay embodies an abuse of power that is becoming a huge problem for the Right. Look back over the former pest-controller’s career in the capital and two intertwined themes emerge: his willingness to push any rule to its limits (he even, temporarily, got his party to rewrite its rules forbidding people indicted for serious crimes to hold leadership posts), and his hand-in-glove relationship with lobbyists.” [4/16/05]

➤ **Richmond Times Dispatch**

“The GOP now faces a choice. It can admit that past assaults on Democrats were cynical exercises in political hardball that had nothing to do with a genuine concern for propriety. Or Republicans can resolve to uphold the standards they set. The latter course is the better and wiser one.” [4/13/05]

➤ **Chicago Tribune**

“The problem for Republicans is that DeLay’s troubles only seem to mount, and the notion that he’s the victim of a Democratic Party/liberal media witch hunt just doesn’t hold water. ... Republicans can argue that the committee chairmanship was due to rotate. But the rules change to block investigations was an incredibly blind and arrogant tactic. Don’t blame DeLay for that one. Blame House Speaker Dennis Hastert for letting it happen.” [4/18/05]

➤ **Lincoln Journal Star**

“The most imperative reason the Republicans in Congress should renounce DeLay’s leadership is not that he is guilty of political miscues, however. It’s that his lack of respect for principles and ethics is showing. The Republicans can do much better.” [4/12/05]

➤ **Salt Lake Tribune**

“Until very recently, though, it would be hard to believably cast DeLay as anyone’s victim. Not only is he the undisputed leader, fund-raiser and enforcer among House Republicans, he was able to get the chairman of the House Ethics Committee fired in retaliation for that panel admonishing DeLay for his strong-arm political tactics. But the ethical smell around DeLay continues to get worse.” [3/24/05]

➤ **Dallas Morning News**

“If House Majority Leader Tom DeLay fails to pull out of the downward ethics spiral he’s caught in, history will note that the powerful Republican jumped the shark on the day in March he blamed a vast left-wing conspiracy for his woes.” [4/2/05]

➤ **Fort Worth Star Telegram**

“Some day, Tom DeLay will be called to account by the American people. Sooner would be better than later for the sake of the Constitution.” [4/3/05]

*\*Every news source in this list endorsed George W. Bush for President in 2004, except one – The Economist.*