

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

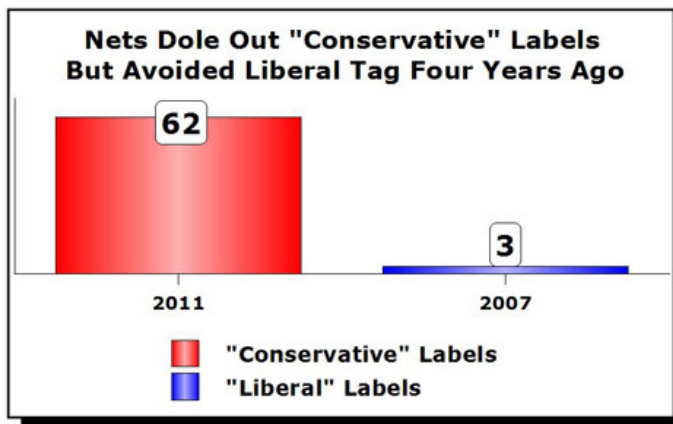
Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

Rep. Jack Kingston (R-GA), Co-Chair

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN), Co-Chair

Networks Show Bias in Labeling Candidates

9/13/11



The television networks have shown a clear double standard in how they describe presidential candidates, according to a recent analysis by the Media Research Center:

“Media Research Center analysts reviewed the ABC, CBS and NBC morning and evening news programs from January 1 through July 31 (of this year) and found 62 ‘conservative’ labels for Republican candidates or those talked about as potential candidates. A check of the same broadcasts for the same time period in 2007 found a paltry three ‘liberal’ labels for the Democrats

running that year, a greater than 20-to-1 disparity.”

The national media should give Americans the facts, not practice a double standard.

Networks Give More Time to Democrats

“[Last] Thursday, the day after the Republican presidential debate, the network morning shows turned to a high profile Democrat [White House chief of staff William Daley] for a response. On Friday, the day after Barack Obama’s jobs speech to Congress, the same programs turned to Democratic Vice President Joe Biden.

“On Friday’s Good Morning America, George Stephanopoulos offered this softball to Biden: ‘Mark Zandi, the economist say this can create close to two million jobs. Is that what you expect? And what is the down side risk for the economy if the President’s plan doesn’t pass?’ Today co-host Ann Curry blandly asked the VP: ‘Mr. Vice President, let’s say for a moment that Congress comes together and supports the President’s plan. When is the earliest that the first job could be created as a result of this plan?’

“Additionally, it’s odd that after the Democrats had a big event, Joe Biden was featured by CBS, NBC and ABC. But, on Thursday morning, after the much-talked about GOP debate, Obama’s chief of staff, William Daley, appeared.”

(Media Research Center)