



Campaign 2000

Media Reality ✓ Check

Expert Documentation of the Latest Liberal Media Bias ☆ Tuesday, September 12, 2000

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Reporters Tout Democratic Momentum, but Few Report Stories That Might Ruin the Veep's Vibe

Why Gore Looks Good: Omit, Omit, Omit

As reporters take out the microscopes to scrutinize one-thirtieth of a second of GOP ads and hail Al Gore's great momentum, the public should note how the press is leaving the embarrassing Gore news stories behind, according to a review of ABC, CBS, CNN, and NBC evening and morning news programs.

Let My People Go? In a front page article August 28, *The Washington Post* reported that Joe Lieberman declared in a black church that Clinton and Gore were comparable to Moses: "You might say the Red Sea finally parted, and more Americans than ever before walked through behind President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore." Did Moses have interns? President Bush was Pharaoh? Network coverage? Nothing except a question on CBS's *Face the Nation*.

Revenge Audit? *The Washington Times* reported on page one August 30: "The woman who sharply questioned Vice President Al Gore at a town-hall meeting about Juanita Broaddrick's rape accusation against President Clinton" has become the subject of a tax inquiry by the IRS. "I find it very suspicious," said Katherine Prudhomme, who asked Gore the uncomfortable questions. "I feel like I'm being harassed." Network coverage? Zero.

The *Times* also reported on that day and the next day that black Secret Service agents charged that a ceiling was placed on the number of black agents assigned to Gore. "Attorney John P. Relman, who represents 38 black agents in a class-action discrimination suit, said Mr. Gore was aware of complaints of racial problems within the Secret Service and on his security detail, but made no effort to address the issue." Network coverage? Only FNC.

Missile-Secret Millionaire. *The Washington Times* reported on its front page September 6: "A top Democratic fundraiser targeted by the Justice Department's campaign

finance task force on possible criminal charges in the sale of missile-related expertise to China has donated \$734,500 to Democrats for the 2000 campaign." The *Times* found no Republican donations from Loral chairman Bernard Schwartz. Network coverage? Zero.

Beanball Al. While pitching batting practice to the Detroit

Tigers September 6, Gore beamed a player on the hip. Network coverage? FNC and the CBS and NBC morning shows mentioned that briefly. On CBS, Jane Clayson said "Whoa, he got him," and Bryant Gumbel replied, "Well, he couldn't hurt him."

No Disabled or Veterans.

Wheelchair-bound Flint, Michigan reporter Chris Swiatecki was told by the Gore staff that he would not be allowed to follow the motor pool in his car, or ride in the press van. Gore irked veterans by skipping the American Legion's national convention. (See how the media treated Dole for skipping the NAACP in 1996.) Network coverage? Only FNC on both. Two nights later, *NBC Nightly News* found "Another sign of progress... the American Legion voted to urge Congress to lift trade sanctions against Cuba."

No Mending Ending. "Gore's Negro tolerance level has never been too high," declared Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) on her congressional Web site about Gore's Secret Service quota, according to the September 8 *Washington Times*. "I've never known him to have more than one black person around him at any given time. I'm not shocked, but I am certainly saddened by this revelation." Network coverage? Only FNC. — *Tim Graham*

Today's Compassionate Omission?

"A \$48 million estate controlled by Joseph Lieberman evicted a woman from one of its buildings, then reversed course when she sued the Connecticut senator and alleged she lost her job because she was injured on the property, court records show." — Associated Press reporter David Ho today.

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