



# Campaign 2000 Media Reality Check **QUICK TAKE**

Tuesday, November 28, 2000 ☪ [www.mrc.org](http://www.mrc.org) ☪ Contact: Katie Wright (703) 683-5004

"THE ATTACKS ON BUSH WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY VICIOUS"

## **NEWSWEEK'S FINEMAN ADMITS THE MEDIA ARE CODDLING LOSER GORE**

*Newsweek* Washington bureau reporter and MSNBC analyst Howard Fineman let it slip out this morning: The liberal media's double standard is benefiting Al Gore as the Democrat tries desperately to spin his way from defeat to victory.

Fineman was a guest this morning on radio's *Imus in the Morning*, simulcast on MSNBC, when host Don Imus asked the question that most liberal reporters dread: What if the roles were reversed?

**"What if Gore had won and Bush, what if the roles were reversed,"** Imus wondered. **"How would, I wouldn't want to include you in this, but how would the liberal weenies of the news media be treating this if the roles were reversed?"**

**"Oh, my God. Are you kidding?"** Fineman truthfully replied. **"That George Bush was a crybaby, that he was the spoiled son of a failed President. You know, you could just hear, the personal attacks on Bush would be just absolutely vicious."**

But, as Fineman knows, the networks aren't calling Gore a crybaby or subjecting him to vicious personal attacks. Monday, all of the broadcast networks interrupted prime time to carry Gore's plea for patience; Sunday, NBC refused to give the certified winner, George W. Bush, a similar chance to speak live and unedited to the entire country.

Instead, in the Eastern and Central time zones, NBC showed *Titanic*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. For those who missed the movie so they could watch the finale of this historic election: the ship sank.

To speak with an MRC spokesperson regarding the media's coverage of Campaign 2000, call Katie Wright at (703) 683-5004.