



Patriots Dinner
Friday, March 21
Lincoln Station Great Hall,
201 N 7th St, Lincoln, NE 68508

5:30PM Mayors Reception
6:30PM Doors Open
7:00PM Patriots Dinner

We hope you can join us at the 41st Annual Patriots Dinner on Friday, March 21 at the Lincoln Station Great Hall as we honor our esteemed volunteers and rally behind all of our Democratic candidates in the 2025 Lincoln City Elections! Featuring guest speakers, awards presentations, and our candidate dessert auction - this is an evening you won't want to miss! To secure your spot, reserve your tickets by March 14th via the link below or by mailing a check to Lancaster County Democratic Party, P.O. Box 83213, Lincoln, NE 68501.

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2025patriots>

Contact LCDP Chair Hannah Wroblewski at Chair@NELancasterDems.org with any questions or if you are in need of a sponsored ticket. It is our hope that everyone has the opportunity to participate in this special evening.

Award nominations are now open

We are seeking nominations for the annual Patriots Dinner Awards. These awards recognize the outstanding work of Democrats in Lancaster County. Please submit nominations via the google form below or by email to

Chair@NELancasterDems.org. The deadline to submit award nominations is March 1st.

<https://forms.gle/fD8F7iYam6PUJpUh8>

Donate to Our Silent Auction

Here's your opportunity to contribute to the fun. We will be continuing our tradition of hosting a silent auction and, as such, will be looking for donors.

Here are some suggestions for donations.

- An item or items (preferably things that are Democrat or Nebraska specific, but we will consider anything).
- A themed basket of some kind (popular past baskets were self-care, baking/cooking, auto care or something related to your business, if applicable).
- Monetarily sponsor a basket (donate the amount you are able, pick a theme if you wish, and LCDP will use that money to create a basket).

All donors will be listed as such at the event.

If you are able to make a donation of some kind, please contact LCDP 2nd Vice Chair Delaney Witt at info@nelancasterdems.org.

Staff members from the Public Defender's Office volunteering at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach on MLK Jr. Day.

Submitted by Kristi Egger

We helped put together "thank you" bags for some donors, and we helped move and sort blankets so they were more accessible and available to be distributed.

We are grateful to Matt Talbot for allowing us to volunteer, and we recommend it to everyone. It certainly does take a village to make our community better.



Trump's promise of mass deportations has Nebraska worried amid labor shortage

Jasmine Garsd, NPR News, Nebraska.

Transcript of discussion Heard on *All Things Considered* used with permission

Nebraska, one of the top beef producers, has one of the worst labor shortages in the nation. The incoming Trump administration has vowed to carry out mass deportations: how will Nebraska be affected?

ARI SHAPIRO, HOST: Nebraska is one of the top meat producers in the U.S. It also has one of the worst labor shortages in the country. For every 100 jobs, there are only 39 workers. A report released last January by the state's economic chamber says Nebraska has no choice but to welcome immigrants to—quote—"address the workforce gap." But that message runs counter to President-elect Trump's pledge to carry out mass deportations. NPR's Jasmine Garsd reports.

JASMINE GARSD, BYLINE: Every so often Al Juhnke, executive director of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association, says that he'll get a phone call from a farmer. It goes something like this.

AL JUHNKE: Al, I got a great idea.

GARSD: On how to solve Nebraska's severe labor shortage.

JUHNKE: Why don't we invite any immigrant—legal, illegal, I don't care—invite them to Nebraska, 'cause we have lots of openings out on our farm, and we need help.

GARSD: Juhnke smiles warily. He and several dozen other Nebraska advocacy and business groups have formed an alliance to demand a reform of federal immigration laws and state policy. They want an expansion of worker visa programs and a pathway to residency for immigrants already here.

JUHNKE: And these are good-paying jobs in the plants.

GARSD: Juhnke says attracting labor is not about wages. The average pay for a meat trimmer is close to \$18 an hour, well above the state minimum of 13.50.

JUHNKE: People say, well, just double or triple the pay. You'll get United States citizens to work. No, you won't.

GARSD: Nebraska needs immigrants. But Nebraskans overwhelmingly voted for incoming President Donald Trump, who has promised to carry out mass deportations. When asked about it, Juhnke echoes what a lot of people here say.

JUHNKE: I think those same voters, at this point in time, will tell you it's just not going to happen.

ELSA R ARANDA: Tell that to the families that got separated and still haven't found their children.

GARSD: Elsa R. Aranda is the state director of LULAC, the oldest Hispanic civil rights organization in the U.S. She says she wants to talk about protecting immigrant lives, not just labor.

ARANDA: Let's harness immigrant labor. Let's harness like an animal. It's dehumanizing.

GARSD: At the end of the day, she says Nebraskans have no other choice.

ARANDA: Yes, yes. We know people hate immigrants that are not here legally—deport them all, etc., etc. Well, what are you going to do when you don't have workers?

GARSD: The governor of Nebraska, Jim Pillen, recently assembled a task force to help address the labor shortage. NPR reached out to his office for comment and did not receive a response. Pillen has also pledged his support for incoming President Trump deporting unauthorized immigrants who pose a threat. But Trump has repeatedly said he plans a much larger-scale deportation. And in the meatpacking towns, the rumor mill is working overtime.

(SOUNDBITE OF MACHINE RUNNING)

GARSD: You can see the city of Fremont on the horizon, the billowing smoke towers from the massive meat plants. If you buy chicken at Costco, it likely comes from here. If you eat SPAM, it possibly got processed here. And on a Friday evening, its streets and bars are eerily empty. We eventually meet one man who is willing to talk if we withhold his last name. He's scared of retaliation. Richie is from El Salvador. He says he's here legally.

RICHIE: (Speaking Spanish).

GARSD: After the election, his plant let go of many undocumented workers, but now, there's not enough people to fill the jobs. So, he's been picking up double shifts. He's grateful for the work, but his coworkers — they joke constantly about being deported. They assume their fate is sealed.

RICHIE: (Speaking Spanish).

GARSD: In Central America, there's an expression — (speaking Spanish)—a hard swallow. And that's what he says he does when they joke. He's applying for asylum for political persecution in El Salvador and says his life could be at risk if he got sent back. So Richie—he goes to work with his papers tucked into his uniform.

NPR reached out to several meat processing plants to inquire about how they're dealing with the possibility of raids. We received no response. Off mic, Richie asks me, is it true that the U.S. government is going to start offering \$1,000 for each undocumented immigrant person reported to the authorities? He plays me the TikTok where he saw it.

(SOUNDBITE OF TIKTOK)

UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: (Speaking Spanish).

GARSD: This is false. But Richie and his coworkers have watched it several times.

(SOUNDBITE OF WIND)

GARSD: On the other end of the state, in the city of North Platte, the situation might come to a head soon. The population in North Platte has been declining for the last decade or so. Unlike so many other Nebraska towns, there are no meat processing factories here for now. This summer, a plant called sustainable beef is slated to open. The company declined an interview with NPR, but the North Platte Area Chamber & Development Corporation confirmed that over 800 jobs will be created, an estimated \$1.2 billion added to the local economy every year. A large sign just off the highway reads, the whole world is understaffed. Be kind to those who showed up.

JANET EVANS: We understand the economic necessity of it, and we're not stupid.

GARSD: Janet Evans goes to the Episcopal Church of our Savior in North Platte. Before we talk, the parishioners express their apprehension. Is this going to be yet another story about a town that voted against its own interests, for mass deportations when what they need is immigrant labor?

EVANS: As a rule, we are practical, and we are nice, and we like our neighbors.

GARSD: She's part of a program that will pair newly arrived migrant families who come to work at the plant with host families.

(SOUNDBITE OF MUSIC)

GARSD: As she gives us a tour of the church, a black-and-white photo stands out of a Japanese man sitting in a jail cell—Father Hiram Kano, part of a wave of Japanese migrants who came to North Platte in the 1920s to work in the beet fields. He was eventually taken to an internment camp. In the Episcopalian faith, he's known as the Nebraska saint. Evans sighs. She says she's bracing for what the next four years will look like for immigrants.

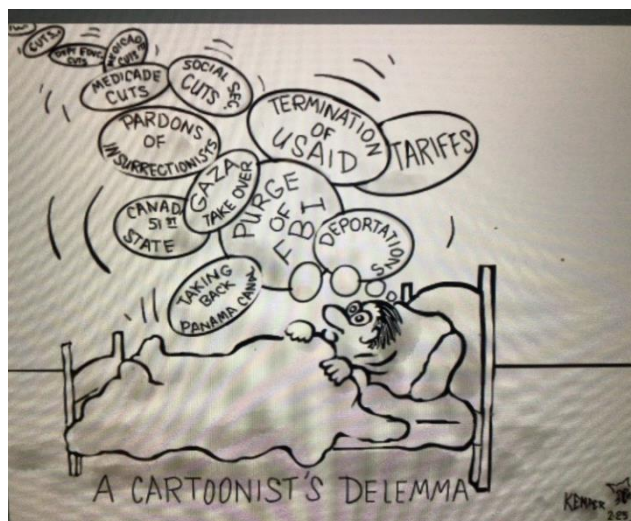
EVANS: I do not know what that looks like. It is terrifying to me too.

GARSD: But she also believes the future looks bright for North Platte. Soon, the new plant will open. More people will come to Platte.

EVANS: We will have lots of little boutiques. We'll have a diverse, lovely school system. We will have a growing number of people who are bilingual. And that is what I dream of.

GARSD: Her door is open, but is America's?

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Apocalyptic thinking might cloud our environmental imagination

By Jim Schaffer

As the United States leaves the Paris Climate Accord, ramps up oil and gas drilling in Alaska, and watches as Los Angeles burns to the ground, you might wonder what Americans are thinking these days about climate change, especially in Nebraska, the home of Arbor Day.

Nebraska has around 400 million trees, including eastern red cedar, ponderosa pine, birch, aspen, cottonwood, sycamore, and silver poplar. Some call us the "Tree Planters' State" because of the efforts early residents made to plant trees across the wide prairie.

But history won't count if we don't keep up. From 2001 to 2023 Nebraska lost nearly 5% of its tree cover. In short, we're losing trees faster than we're planting them.

It's just anecdotal but the loss of tree cover is obvious in the older neighborhood where I live. On our property we have lost five large trees (those over forty feet tall) and planted just three, about the same ratio that you might find on adjacent properties.

The question to ponder is whether Nebraska is still a tree planting state. Have attitudes changed since the days of J. Sterling Morton?

Julius Sterling Morton gained approval from the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture in 1872 to create a holiday for trees. Now, on the last Friday of April, children gather at Arbor Lodge State Historical Park in Nebraska City to celebrate Arbor Day where they learn the importance of trees. More than 150 years of efforts have transformed Nebraska from a mostly treeless prairie to a landscape rich with trees.

Morton first reached the plains of Nebraska Territory on Nov. 10, 1854. Earlier that year, the Kansas-Nebraska Act opened the new territory to settlement claims and the rush was on. Omaha City was only four months old.

Twenty-two-year-old Morton had grown up in Michigan hearing tales of the American West. Chugging up the Missouri River on the ferry that day in November, Morton was joined by his newlywed wife, Caroline Joy Morton. After a seven-year engagement, they married in Detroit and left for Nebraska the same day.

Morton was determined to make his mark. After an unsuccessful race for a seat in the Territorial Legislature, he relocated from Bellevue to Nebraska City, where Morton became the editor of *The Nebraska City News*. "The great restless spirit of the times," Morton wrote, "demands a literature responsive to it."

The Mortons built their new home on a high point west of town with a distant view of the river. And from their first days there, the Mortons began planting trees. They enlarged the home they called Arbor Lodge four times and years later, Morton would joke that he should have called the houses "seed, bud, blossom, and fruit."

The state's politics, however, weren't falling in line with Morton's vision. His strongly conservative Democratic positions were very much the minority view in Republican-leaning Nebraska. But in 1857 President Buchanan appointed Morton secretary of the Nebraska Territory—a role he would serve for three years.

Meanwhile Nebraska City was a microcosm of the national fractures between North and South. Situated across the river from anti-slavery Iowa and just upriver from slave-holding Missouri, the growing settlement was exposed to the occasional slave auction, slave hunters, the Underground Railroad network, and several visits from John Brown.

During the Civil War, Morton served as an officer in the Nebraska City Cavalry, which was organized to help protect settlers. When it ended, he returned to the news business where he frequently editorialized against voting rights and economic assistance for formerly enslaved people. Let's set aside Morton's horrific political views, however, and turn to his thoughts on trees which were far more influential.

Newspaper readers who picked up the March 31, 1870, edition of the newspaper, discovered this Morton editorial: "If the Bible had been written since 1840, the 10 Commandments would have contained the injunction: 'Let all the dwellers upon the treeless plains, plant trees!'"

Trees protected the soil, created shade, served as a windbreak and beautified the countryside. Nebraska was not the great American desert, he argued; his own orchards and shade trees proved otherwise. Now Morton just needed to convince everyone else.

In 1872, Morton asked State to declare a holiday dedicated to the planting of trees. Nebraskans must "prepare for the great battle against the timberless prairies," he said, "so that emerald banners shall wave in triumph upon every farm in the state."

On April 10 his vision of mass tree planting became a reality. Although Morton's shipment of 800 trees did not arrive in time for the big day, thousands of Nebraskans gently placed over a million seedlings into the prairie sod on that first Arbor Day. Many sang patriotic songs or religious hymns as they worked.

Arbor Day soon captured the notice of other areas of the country. By 1884, ten additional states had made it a holiday and within twenty years every state

but Delaware celebrated the occasion. Not surprisingly, Morton's fame grew accordingly.

Sensing an opportunity to snag a veteran Democrat, President Grover Cleveland summoned Morton to Washington in 1893 to serve as Secretary of Agriculture. Morton served with distinction for four years, promoting agricultural reforms and tightening the department's finances.

Expecting a hayseed from the hinterlands, Washingtonians were surprised to find that Morton was the best dressed cabinet member, even as he enjoyed using colorful country language to fool his listeners. He once wrote to the president's private secretary that he intended "to yoke up the steers so as to arrive there in time [for a cabinet meeting] if I finish husking the corn, feeding the pigs, and milking the cows." His grandson later recalled that "if any other cabinet member turned out with sleeker horses, glossier harness, or shinier carriages, gloom settled over the stables of Agriculture."

Morton returned home to his beloved Arbor Lodge in 1897. There, he spent his twilight years continuing to promote the importance of tree planting. Morton died on April 27, a few days after his 70th birthday.

The great treeless plains Morton first encountered in 1854 have changed dramatically. Morton recognized this himself. In an Arbor Day address thirty years after he first arrived in the territory, he said: "If you seek my monument, look around you."

Why environmental apathy?

We might have trouble finding people today with Morton's passion for trees, considering how many seem unconcerned about extreme weather events. Why are so many apathetic about the environment or even opposed to measures that might fend off global warming?

Since the early 1980s, according to national polling, evangelicals have been indifferent, at best, to climate causes. One reason may be that they follow some Biblical passages while ignoring others.

Some Bible readers, for example, assert that God is guiding world history to a preordained end. His plans for planet earth cannot be changed by human competence or incompetence. We should probably take care of the place while we're here, the argument goes, but we're not going to destroy it ourselves. God has other plans.

On the other hand, many Christian evangelicals stress the Genesis creation story to make the opposite argument: since God gifted the planet to humans, he expected them to be good stewards. According to religious author Bart Ehrman's recent book

Armageddon, increasing numbers of evangelicals today, especially in the younger generations, are taking climate change more seriously.

How long do we have?

It's never too early to imagine the end of the world, suggests Arthur Krystal in a recent New Yorker article, "Knockin' on Heaven's Door." He writes that scientists project that life on Earth will probably end in about a billion years when our sun becomes so hot it will cause the oceans to boil. But it turns out lots of people have proposed alternate theories about when the world, as we know it, will cease to exist.

The Book of Daniel, written about 160 B.C., for example, might have been the first text to truly warn of the apocalypse. Daniel was writing to Jews who were being persecuted by the Greek tyrant Antiochus IV. The book heralds a "Son of Man" who would one day defeat Israel's enemies and establish God's sovereignty over the earth, music to the ears, one supposes, of Daniel's audience.

Another book of the Bible that describes end times is John of Patmos' Revelation. John's vision includes angels with feet of fire, the Whore of Babylon, and the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, among others. In time, the Book of Revelation became the cornerstone of apocalyptic thinking. Many believers, both in ancient times and now, were attracted to the end times because life on earth was so grim. They could look forward to a lifespan of 35-40 years without benefit of medicine, dentistry, or even a decent sewage system. People slept on floors or straw pallets, flicking aside mice and fleas.

The Apocalypse offered a future paradise where God's children would live in a bountiful land with no pain or suffering. "The time is at hand," wrote John. In America, his vision helped prophecy-oriented publishers and bookstores flourish with titles like Hal Lindsey's *The Late Great Planet Earth* and Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins' *Left Behind* series.

According to a 2022 report by the Pew Research Center, 14% of Christians in the U.S. "believe that Jesus will definitely or probably return in their life." That represents some thirty million Americans who are planning to spend a thousand years in a Messianic kingdom on earth or speed directly to Heaven. How much do the rising oceans matter to them?

Philosophers point to the problem that if history is already written, all human decisions are hopeless shams. "The future does not come to pass," wrote Martin Buber. "The future is already present."

The Timing of the End

Many Christians, of course, are less adamant in thinking that the end will come “soon” and that humans have a responsibility for their God-given dominion over the earth. In the Genesis story, for example, God tells Adam and Eve to “tend” and “keep” the Garden of Eden, signifying their role as caretakers. Humans are to be “good stewards,” responsible for managing the Earth and all its resources.

All of us make decisions about what to do based on what will eventually happen. If taking an action—say, incurring debts to attend medical school or remortgaging the house—costs us time, effort, and money in the short term but will pay off over the long haul, we may be likely to do it. But if we’re not confident that the action will work, we don’t bother.

Considering that what we do or don’t do in terms of the environment will impact our lives *right now* might help dissipate the apathy caused by apocalyptic thinking. The abundant evidence that climate change is taking place at this moment, in our lifetimes, should be cause enough for everyone to heed the directive God gave in the Garden of Eden.

Sources include the “The irascible Arborist,” by James J. Kimble in Nebraska Life, March/April 2022, Armageddon by Bart Ehrman, “Knockin on Heaven’s Door” by Arthur Krystal in the New Yorker, Feb. 5, 2025



Elmer, did you ever imagine that the price of eggs I produce would help sway the results of a U.S. Presidential Election?

Updated: The Mainstream Media Has Failed The Country For Decades

By Dennis Crawford

NOTE: I wrote a postscript to this article in November 2024 shortly after the election. You can find it at the end of this piece. The mainstream press continued to fail the country.

One of the most pernicious myths spread by the GOP is that the mainstream media is liberal. The history of the mainstream press going back over thirty years indicates that they frequently adopt Republican talking points on the issues and have badly hurt the country. Let’s take a little trip down memory lane and review how the mainstream media has failed the country by enabling the Republicans.

It all began during the first Clinton campaign for president. For eight long years, the mainstream media overhyped phony scandals about the Clintons that were pushed out by the GOP. The Clintons were never charged with anything after being investigated for seven years by three Republican special prosecutors.

Washington Post columnist David Broder was regarded as the dean of the D.C. press corps back in the day. Broder regarded Bill Clinton as a low-class usurper and called for his impeachment over the Lewinsky matter. In contrast, Broder went easy on George W. Bush and admitted that Karl Rove was his good friend. *Washington Post* columnist Sally Quinn said that “Clinton came in here and he trashed the place, and it’s not his place.”

After eight years of trashing the Clintons, the press took out its pique on Al Gore during the 2000 campaign. The “almost universal hostility he inspired in the reporters and editors who covered the race” was palpable, according to author Eric Alterman. “Overlooking the issues, the press focused on Gore’s stuffed-shirt personality, comparing it unfavorably to Bush’s frat-boy cool, and turning the presidential race into the equivalent of a school election, where the dim but likable party animal was destined to beat the goody-goody student council know-it-all,” Alterman wrote.

Media support for Bush continued into his first term, especially after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The press became cheerleaders for the Bush Administration’s push for war with Iraq. The mainstream press acted as stenographers for the Bush Administration’s disingenuous campaign aimed at convincing the American people to support the invasion of Iraq. At the same time, the elite media largely ignored opponents of the war.

Unfortunately, the Iraq War turned out to be one of the biggest foreign policy blunders in U.S. history. No weapons of mass destruction were ever found. The war ground on for over eight years and according to Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz, will eventually cost U.S. taxpayers \$3 trillion. Sadly, 4,424 American heroes died in this conflict and an additional 300,000 Iraqi civilians perished.

The media's incompetence probably cost Hillary Clinton the 2016 election. Thanks to the press, Hillary's private email server became the focus of the campaign. It was all much ado about very little since Hillary was cleared by the Inspector General's Office, the Trump State Department and two times by the FBI. Hillary is the most exonerated person in history.

The *Columbia Journalism Review* studied the *NY Times'* coverage of the 2016 election. Their most alarming finding: "In just six days, the *New York Times* ran as many cover stories about Hillary Clinton's emails as they did about all the policy issues combined in the 69 days leading up to the election." This study found that the *Times* devoted much more online and print space to the scandals (real and imagined) and campaign horse race for both candidates than it did to their policies on topics such as health care and taxes.

POSTSCRIPT: The likes of the *NY Times* and the *Washington Post* continued to hound Biden about his age, called for his withdrawal and managed to drive him out of the race. After Biden withdrew, the mainstream press never called for Trump to withdraw from the race on account of his age and declining mental health. Instead, articles on Trump's age and infirmity were rare and the pieces danced around the issue.

The media continued to grade Trump on a curve and subjected Kamala Harris to strict scrutiny. After Harris did an admirable job at a CNN town hall in October, the CNN panel subjected her performance to withering criticism. They failed to mention that Trump had dodged a second debate on CNN scheduled for that time slot and his boycott of a town hall on CNN.

Van Jones was the only panel member who dissented from the rest of the panel. Jones said the following about the criticisms from his fellow CNN pundits: "*Kamala Harris and Donald Trump are not taking the same exam, and I think it bothers people... he gets to be lawless, she has to be flawless... she's talking about actual ideas that will help real people, and he's talking about people's penises.*"

Michelle Obama condemned the media's differential treatment of the candidates: "But whether it's online or in the media or in our social circles, there are folks who say they're not sure about Kamala. They accuse her of not providing enough policy detail. Some wonder: Do we really know her? Is she too aggressive?

Is she not aggressive enough? There are folks sowing seeds of doubt about whether she's who she appears to be.

"Voters have every right to ask hard questions of any candidate seeking office," she continued, "but can someone tell me why we are once again holding Kamala to a higher standard than her opponent?"

The mainstream press added insult to injury when the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the Gannett newspaper chain all made the decision not to endorse in the closing days of the campaign. Jeff Bezos spiked an endorsement of Harris that had already been drafted. In contrast, these media outlets all endorsed Biden in 2020.

After its non-endorsement decision, the *Washington Post* lost one tenth of its subscribers or 300,000 subscribers. After the election, Bezos congratulated Trump on his win. Bezos never congratulated Biden in 2020.

The *NY Times*, to its credit, was pretty aggressive about calling out Trump's lies, lack of character, extreme platform and authoritarian ideas in the last three weeks of the campaign. Unfortunately, it was too little, too late after normalizing Trump and savaging Biden for almost four years.

The likes of the *NY Times* and *Washington Post* have taken Democratic readers for granted for years. They have dumped on us while trying to appease the GOP. Enough. I canceled my subscriptions to these publications and now consume other news sources. I would recommend *The Guardian*, *BBC News*, *Pro Publica* and the *Drudge Report*. Interestingly enough, Matt Drudge was much tougher on Trump than the mainstream media.

POST POSTSCRIPT: The mainstream media has continued to debase itself after the election. Jeff Bezos went to Mar-A-Lago to bend the knee and kiss Trump's rings. The billionaire owner of the *L.A. Times* has banned editorials criticizing Trump unless they are presented side-by-side with another opinion piece representing the Trump/MAGA Republican view.

ABC News agreed to pay Trump \$15 million to settle a frivolous defamation lawsuit that it otherwise could have won. Trump filed the lawsuit after George Stephanopoulos accurately stated that there was a judicial finding that Trump had been held liable for rape. Moreover, Trump couldn't have proven any damages because he had no loss of reputation and won the election.

ABC's settlement has set a dangerous precedent that will encourage Trump to file more frivolous defamation lawsuits in an attempt to intimidate the press. Shortly after ABC's humiliating sellout, Trump filed a defamation lawsuit against the *Des Moines Register* and the Gannett newspaper

company over an inaccurate poll that they published just before the election. Trump has threatened lawsuits against other media outlets.

The issue isn't whether mainstream media will hold Trump accountable in his second term — they've already given up. The question is whether enough independent media voices can survive to fill the void they are leaving behind.

Similarly, network television broadcasts dedicated more airtime to coverage of Hillary's private email server than to all policy issues combined.

Joe Biden's press coverage has been as bad as Hillary's was in 2016. He began getting negative coverage from the mainstream media at the time of the withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021. The media lambasted him when U.S. troops pulled out of this failed, twenty-year war. I doubt any members of the elite press have ever served in the military and they wouldn't want their kids to serve, either.

Since 2021, the press has constantly blasted just about everything Biden has done. In their eyes, Biden can't do anything right and the country is in terrible shape. Between 2021–23, the press constantly predicted a recession even though the economy was growing, and inflation was receding. The press is constantly surprised by good economic news and predicts that bad times are just around the corner.

The incessant junk polls from the press indicate that only a small minority of Americans are aware of Biden's impressive legislative accomplishments. For example, a recent CBS poll indicated that only 10% of Americans have either heard or read a lot about what the Biden administration has done to address climate change. That ignorance is an indictment of the mainstream press — they have failed in their job of informing the American people.

The best example of the media's disdain for Biden can be found in their coverage of his age and Trump's age. "From April 25, when President Joe Biden officially announced his reelection bid, through September 30, the top five U.S. newspapers by circulation — the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post* — published a total of 378 articles that mentioned either Biden's or former President Donald Trump's age anywhere within the article. Of those, 88% mentioned Biden's age while only 42% mentioned Trump's. If the papers believe that Biden's age is so newsworthy, then they should treat the nearly as advanced age of Trump equally." *Media Matters*, October 20, 2023.

The terrible press coverage of Biden's age reached its height when Republican special counsel Robert Hur cleared Biden over his retention of

classified documents. Instead, of simply announcing that he had cleared Biden, Hur gave the medical opinion that Biden allegedly has a poor memory. Hur isn't a doctor — he is a Federalist Society lawyer who served in the Trump Administration.

Hur's report violated Department of Justice Guidelines — he was in no way authorized to give medical opinions. In addition, Hur lied about Biden's memory in his report. The deposition transcript showed that Biden had excellent recall and at one point, Hur complimented Biden's memory of past events. Hur should be investigated by the D.C. Bar Association and be disbarred for his misconduct.

Despite Hur's lack of medical credentials and dishonesty, the mainstream press treated his medical opinions as the ten stone tablets from Mount Sinai. "A Popular Information analysis found that just three major papers — the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Wall Street Journal* — collectively published 81 articles about Hur's assessment of Biden's memory in the four days following the release of Hur's report." Judd Legum, February 12, 2024.

Meanwhile, Trump's continued gaffes, memory lapses and inability to stay awake in court have been barely mentioned by the press. The Trump memory lapse that received the most attention was when he claimed three times that Nikki Haley was in charge of security of the Capitol on January 6, 2021. The coverage of this howler was virtually non-existent. In the four days following Trump's gaffe, the misstatement was referenced in four articles in the *New York Times*, nine articles in the *Washington Post*, and two articles in the *Wall Street Journal*.

The *Politico* website recently revealed that the *NY Times'* hostility to Biden stems from publisher A.G. Sulzberger's anger that Biden won't give the *Times* an interview. "In publisher A.G. Sulzberger's view, according to two people familiar with his private comments on the subject, only an interview with a paper like the *Times* can verify that the 81-year-old Biden is still fit to hold the presidency." *Politico*, April 25, 2024.

In the *Politico* pieces, a reporter from the *Times* verified that their excessive coverage of Biden's age is punishment for not giving Sulzberger an interview. "It's A.G. He's the one who is pissed [that] Biden hasn't done any interviews and quietly encourages all the tough reporting on his age." *Politico*, April 25, 2024.

This is a stunning revelation. The *New York Times* is now admitting that it's smearing Biden for petulant and self-interested reasons. This explains the *NY Times'* bias and negative coverage of Biden. *The Times* is no longer credible and can't be trusted.

The Biden Administration blasted the arrogant *NY Times* in response to its biased coverage of the age

issue. "They see the *Times* falling short in a make-or-break moment for American democracy, stubbornly refusing to adjust its coverage as it strives for the appearance of impartial neutrality, often blurring the asymmetries between former President Donald Trump and Biden when it comes to their perceived flaws and vastly different commitments to democratic principles." *Politico*, April 25, 2024.

In response to Biden's refusal to give an interview to Sulzberger, the *Times* attacked Biden. By issuing that statement, the *Times* confirmed its hostility towards the president. If Biden sat down for an interview with the *NY Times*, they would ask a bunch of stupid process and age questions. After the interview, they would write a series of analysis pieces trashing Biden.

Has the mainstream media allowed themselves to be repeatedly played by the GOP for decades because they are stupid? All of the elite publishers, editors and reporters have fancy degrees. They aren't dumb. Perhaps they want the GOP to win. That is the logical explanation.

CBS chief executive officer Les Moonves gave away the game when he said this about the 2016 Trump campaign: "It may not be good for America, but it's damn good for CBS."

Washington Post owner Jeff Bezos hired Will Lewis as the new CEO of the *Washington Post*. Lewis' background is that he worked for Rupert Murdoch in the United Kingdom and helped cover up his scandals. Amazon pays zero taxes, and Bezos would like to continue to stiff the taxpayers.

We can't rely upon the mainstream media to get out our message. It's up to us. That's why I post early and often about politics. It's daily progressive talk on my social media accounts. If not us, who? If not now, when? Now let's get it done! On to victory!



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