

## October Edition: Unmasking the Media



### Media Bias

*"The power of the purse currently hijacks the power of the press. Daily. Further, the rich elitists have become adept at snuffing out fires of truth and silencing the whistles of whistle-blowers. It is time to speak out...The media may be strong, but 'we the people' are stronger because speaking the truth with love can overwhelmingly overcome the hateful lies or influences of the enemy."*

**-Stacie Ruth Stoelting and Carrie Beth Stoelting,  
Sisters and Co-Founders of UnitetheUSA.org**

Media. In response to the word, most people automatically cringe inside. How has our country become a petri dish for hateful propaganda mislabeled as news?

**Many media resort to tabloid-like techniques instead of factual, simple reporting. Social media now supply the news for many, but the "trending" topics are not even reliable. The**

extreme discord seen today clashes with the classes, races, cultures, etc. Sadly, this month's contributing writer, Sharyl Attkisson, knows it personally.

Sharyl Attkisson is an accomplished investigative journalist who was a reporter at CBS News for two decades. However, in 2014, she resigned due to the network's liberal bias, which no longer supported her truthful reporting on the air.

In short, Sharyl Attkisson is a media whistle-blower. In this month's article, Attkisson has ripped off the mask of the left-wing media's agenda to reveal the faces of the elite class, which controls the media. With courageous fortitude, Attkisson has refused to be silenced: She has written books and articles and has her own Sunday morning news show called *Full Measure*.

As you will soon discover in her article, Sharyl Attkisson explained it well: "Many people seem shocked by claims from a former New York Times reporter who says the newspaper sat on her 2004 information exposing alleged sexual misconduct by Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein. (The Times told Newsweek they would have only withheld information for good reason.) **The Weinstein question aside, I can tell you that every day, in newsrooms around the country, stories are killed because powerful people know how to get them killed.**"

The power of the purse currently hijacks the power of the press. Daily. Further, the rich elitists have become adept at snuffing out fires of truth and silencing the whistles of whistleblowers.

Newsflash: Freedom of speech is supposed to apply to all people --not to just certain groups.

Today, if you have enough power, money, and well-oiled connections, you can hide the biggest news stories.

For instance, even Wikipedia is largely controlled by leftist editors. All too often unseen special interest groups and PR firms with an agenda are influencing what you read. According to Sharyl Attkisson, "if one of these forces is acting as an editor to control a Wikipedia page or topic for a client, you may find it impossible to enter facts that are contrary to their desired narrative." Sadly, people have been fired or blocked from the site for simply trying to tell the truth. With that said, we suggest also using an alternative to Wikipedia called Conservapedia ([www.conservapedia.com](http://www.conservapedia.com)). (It's an encyclopedia web site founded by Phyllis Schlafly's son, Andrew Schlafly.) This resource supplies a way to see content filtered by Wikipedia.

The media may be strong, but we the people are stronger: With God's help and perseverance, we can fight back. Speaking the truth with love can overwhelmingly overcome the hateful lies or influences of the enemy.

God bless,

Carrie Stoelting and Stacie Stoelting

Sisters and founders of [Unite the USA](http://Unite the USA)

## Featured Quote

"If the people in the media cannot decide whether they are in the business of reporting news or manufacturing propaganda, it is all the more important that the public understand that difference, and choose their news sources accordingly."

**Thomas Sowell**

## This Month's Bible Verse

"Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." **Psalm 25:5**

## Sharyl Attkisson on Media Bias



The Smear: Sharyl Attkisson Talks Fake News, Hidden Political Agendas in New Book

## Americans don't trust the media, and for good reason

By Sharyl Attkisson  
[www.sharylattkisson.com](http://www.sharylattkisson.com)

Trust in the mass media is at an all-time low. Two-thirds of Americans believe the mainstream press publishes fake news.

Yes, there's still much good journalism to be found, if you know where to look. Yet, ask reporters who've been around a while, and many will tell you that a lot of good journalism is being left unpublished. Good journalists hate what's happening to the news.

We have only ourselves to blame.

Firewalls that once strictly separated news from opinion have been replaced by hopelessly blurred lines. Once-forbidden practices such as editorializing within straight news reports, and the inclusion of opinions as if fact, are not only tolerated; they're encouraged.

We've exempted ourselves from the normal rules that used to govern us, and so the most egregious kinds of reporting errors are becoming more common. Formerly well-respected news organizations and experienced national journalists are making the sorts of mistakes that aren't tolerated in journalism schools. When their mistakes are corrected at all, it's with little seeming regret. And the corrections never garner a circulation as wide as the original salacious narrative.

Special interests understand this, as they peddle tasty bites of scandalous, dubious information, hoping one major news organization or popular blog will bite.

When fact errors are exposed, there are rarely any visible consequences for the offender. In fact, if anything, these figures often seem to gain more prominence. Colleagues cheer on the editorializing and misreporting, and management rewards it. Many news organizations have come to resemble the fact-starved blogs they once took pains to remain separate from.

As journalists, we're supposed to sort through press releases, talking points and propaganda, using them only to the extent they enlighten us as to what special interests want to believe: Is it true? Is it the whole story? Who wants you to think it and why? Are they trying to deflect attention from other facts or a more important story?

Finding these answers is a basic part of our job.

Instead, we're willing repositories for all kinds of narratives. We report - as if news - press releases from the government, corporations, special interests or nonprofits (that are often undisclosed fronts for political and business interests). They influence us with help from public relations groups, law firms, super PACs, "big data analysis" companies, think tanks, nonprofits, and LLCs. They pay "journalists" to write their "news stories" and then have them published on partner blogs and quasi-news sites, where they get circulated on social media and picked up in the mainstream. Whether through ignorance or turning a blind eye, we're not asking the questions we ought to be asking about the forces generating the "news."

It was equal parts predictable and inevitable. For a decade or more, we've increasingly invited corporate and political interests into our newsrooms. We plaster the news with pundits without fully disclosing their paid interests, as they deliver talking points du jour that are neither spontaneous nor insightful - but always on message. Some of these figures are given key roles as managers, reporters and anchors; offered access to internal editorial information. And because we allow ourselves to be tools of all sides, we call it fair.

Many Americans are eagerly watching the devolution of traditional news with relish because they agree with the prevailing narratives, whether based on true facts or imagined fiction. But others are

growing skeptical of nearly every news item they see or read. Some have stopped consuming news altogether.

That serves the goal of the interests that are pulling our strings. It's in the PR playbook. If they can do nothing more than confuse an issue, they've accomplished their mission. They throw so much information into the mix that ordinary people disregard all of it, including the truth that would have damaged the interests.

I think there are millions of people, particularly those who live outside of Washington, D.C., New York City and Los Angeles, who would like their news straight up: News that they don't have to discount because they're placing odds on the political and corporate interests of the reporters. Yet, we don't hear these desires because we're trapped in an echo chamber of our own creation.

I'm commonly asked, "Can 'the news' be fixed?" In simple terms, there are two components necessary to do so: We must correctly identify (and admit) our problem, and then take steps to correct it.

We have yet, as an industry, to take step one.

## About Sharyl Attkisson

Sharyl Attkisson is an Emmy award winning investigative journalist, host of the Sunday morning news program "Full Measure," and author of the New York Times bestseller: "Stonewalled."

She was a correspondent for CBS News from 1993-2014. Before joining CBS, Attkisson was an anchor and correspondent for CNN (1990-1993). From 1996-2001, in addition to her CBS News duties, Attkisson hosted a half-hour weekly medical news magazine on PBS entitled "HealthWeek."

Prior to working on the national news, Attkisson was a reporter, anchor and/or producer at WTVT Tampa (1986-1990), WBNS Columbus, Ohio (1985-1986) and WTVX Ft. Pierce (1982-1985).



Attkisson was one of the first journalists to fly on a military combat mission: a B-52 sortie in Kosovo. She also flew on an F-15 fighter jet Combat Air Patrol (CAP) flight.

Attkisson attended the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications where she worked as a reporter at WUFT-TV and WRUF radio. Attkisson served on the University's Journalism College Advisory Council (1993-1997) and was chairman in 1996. In 1997, she received the University of Florida's Alumnae of Outstanding Achievement Award. She co-authored the college textbook: "Writing Right for Broadcast and Internet News" (Allyn & Bacon 2003).

## About *The Smear*

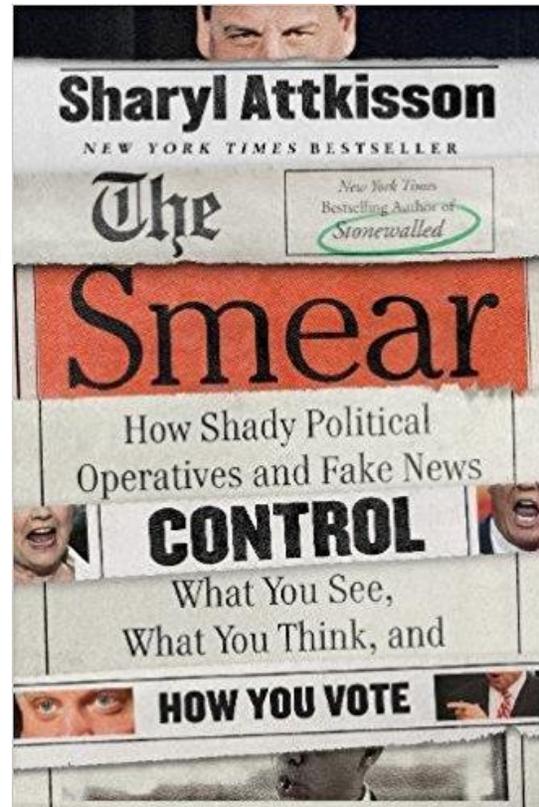
Sharyl Attkisson has a new book out called *The Smear*. Get your copy [here](#).

### About the Book:

Behind most major political stories there is an agenda: To destroy an idea or the people advancing it. Maybe you watched someone on the news report that Donald Trump is a racist misogynist, read that Hillary Clinton used a body double, or heard that Bernie Sanders cheated in the primary. Regardless of accuracy, the themes get repeated until they become accepted by many as the truth. It's called "the smear." Sophisticated operatives work behind the scenes to establish narratives, manipulate journalists, and shape the images you see every day. Nothing is by accident.

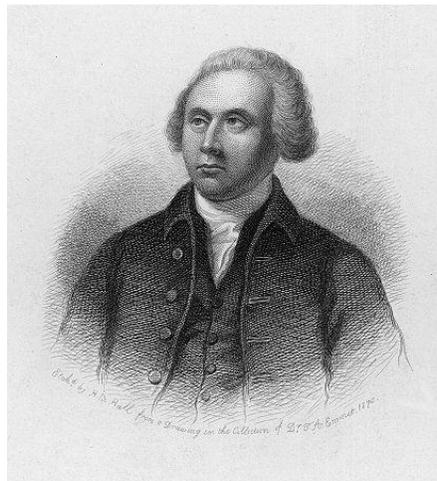
Now hard-hitting investigative journalist Sharyl Attkisson, the New York Times bestselling author of *Stonewalled*, takes you behind the scenes of the modern smear machine, exploring how operatives from corporations and both sides of the political aisle have manipulated a complicit mainstream media to make disinformation, rumor, and dirty tricks defining traits of our democracy. Pulling back the curtain on the shady world of opposition research, she reveals how those in power create well-funded, organized attack campaigns to take down their enemies and influence your opinions, offering a detailed examination of the think tanks, super PACs, LLCs, and nonprofits that have become the hidden backers of some of the biggest smears in American politics.

And she doesn't just tell stories-she names names, sharing her deeply researched account of how smears take shape and who their perpetrators are-from Clinton confidant Sidney Blumenthal to liberal political operative David Brock, who, along with his expansive Media Matters for America empire, has been rewriting the rules of the smear game for decades while raking in millions of dollars in generous compensation. In addition, Attkisson reveals outrageous transactional journalism and exposes scandalous emails behind the smear industrial complex, showing how Campaign 2016 became the exclamation point on the thirty-year evolution of the smear machine. Dissecting the most divisive, partisan election in American history, she explores how both sides used every smear tactic as a political weapon, culminating in Donald Trump's hard-fought victory, even as his detractors have continued their smears against him into the Oval Office.



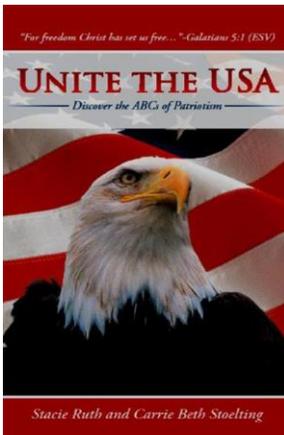
What emerges is a timely assault on the mainstream media's willingness to sacrifice ethics for clicks, and the cynical politicians and high-paid consultants who exploit this reality. A critical discussion for this perilous moment, *The Smear* is a disturbing look at how the black market serving professional propagandists really works.

## Featured Founding Father



**Thomas Nelson Jr.** (December 26, 1738 - January 4, 1789) represented Virginia in the Continental Congress. He was the governor of Virginia in 1781. Nelson is regarded as one of the U.S. Founding Fathers. As a member of the Virginia delegation, he signed the Declaration of Independence and fought in the militia during the Siege of Yorktown.

**Order Now**



*Unite the USA: Discover the ABCs of Patriotism* is a new book by **Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth Stoelting**. It's a book that empowers patriots to make a big difference in the land we love. With 100+ ways to make a positive difference in America, *Unite the USA* is a must-have tool for patriots. *Unite the USA* will inspire and educate Americans to defend faith and freedom. (Important Note: All proceeds go to fund the mission of [UnitetheUSA.org](http://UnitetheUSA.org).) [Order it here today!](#)

***In God We Still Trust***  
an inspiring album dedicated to God and veterans  
by Stacie and Carrie Stoelting



Per request from veterans who love patriotic and inspiring music sung by Stacie and Carrie, [In God We Still Trust](#) was recorded. From the National Anthem to "God Bless America" you will be inspired and uplifted about our God-given freedoms. All proceeds go to Unite the USA. Help promote faith and freedom in America. Your support is important and appreciated. [ShopBuy](#) or [download a copy today](#). God bless you as you celebrate the red, white, and blue!

**In God We Still Trust Video**

Our country needs to turn to Jesus. Listen to "In God We Still Trust" for inspiration to keep "fighting the good fight". For hope and encouragement, listen to Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth sing "In God We Still Trust".



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## Booking Info



Celebrate the true spirit of America with Carrie Beth and Stacie Ruth. Book Stacie and Carrie for concert or conference! E-mail [info@unitetheusa.org](mailto:info@unitetheusa.org) for more information.

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