

ONE NATION, DIVISIBLE ! ONE NATION, DIVISIBLE !

THE APPALLING AMERICAN INFORMATION RIFT



"...in today's telecommunications environment, there is no excuse for an uninformed electorate. These new technologies present one additional means by which voters can become fully informed of political issues and candidates' views." - Tim Penny

There's no excuse for an uninformed electorate! *Makes sense, doesn't it?* After all, 98% of American households have at least one TV set! *Sounds reasonable, doesn't it?* After all, we live in a technological wonderland, in which important news just flows into more than 100,800,000 homes every single day! *Seems so simple, doesn't it?* After all, we simply click the remote, select the network, and become fully informed voters. No muss, no fuss, no bother. Yeah, right!

Fact is: much of the American electorate is less informed than even before in history. Fact is: on the brink of the most crucial presidential election in recent history, less truth has been told to the American public than ever before in our history. Fact is: There are those who know, and those who don't. Fact is: There are those who know, and those who think they know. Fact is: only months before American voters go to the polls, we are facing an abysmal information divide.

In a more ordinary time, that might have been unfortunate. In a less crucial time, it might not have mattered so terribly. But in these perilous times it is absolutely frightening that so many people believe the propaganda that the Rove machine has spewed out for three and half years. It is absolutely alarming that so many people have been taken in by the repeated lies told by George Bush, Dick Cheney, and their cohorts. It is scary indeed, in this decisive time, that so many people accept so gullibly what they are told. But it is also understandable.

The truth is that many, many Americans are part of the 'uninformed electorate' not because of what they WERE told, but because of what they WERE NOT told. It is not so much that they were lied to, but that the lies were not exposed by the media, and the truth was not revealed by those who had the power, the means and the responsibility to do so. The public had no frame of reference because they relied on the media for news. They relied on the media for information. They relied on the media, period. Big, big mistake.

And yet, from this strange paradox comes an antidote. Print out the flyer that follows. Get the questions out there. Reach out to the uninformed, the undecided, and the misled, and show them what they were NOT told. Download and distribute, it might awaken someone. Download and distribute, it might narrow the gap. Download and distribute, there's still time. Surely there's not much time, but maybe there's just enough.....





READ THIS **BEFORE** YOU VOTE!

THE BASIS OF ANY DEMOCRACY IS AN INFORMED ELECTORATE! HOW INFORMED ARE YOU?

TvNewsLies.org contends that the corporate media has deprived many American voters of important information needed to make informed choices in this crucial Presidential election. Below are lead-ins to *some* of the most important news stories that were either unreported or under-reported by most of the nation's news networks.

See how familiar you are with 30 news stories that have been extensively reported by alternative news sites on the Internet, but *not* by the corporate media. Then decide whether you have been adequately informed by your news sources, and whether you are part of the *informed electorate* that America relies on to sustain its democracy.

Directions: Rate each story from 1 to 5

1. I know about this story and know most of the details
2. I know about this story and know some of the details
3. I know about the story but don't know any of the details
4. I heard something about the story but don't have any idea what it's about
5. I never heard anything about this story.

THE STORIES

RATING

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Dick Cheney sued by GOA, Sierra Club and Judicial Watch. | _____ |
| 2. Dick Cheney refuses to reveal information about Energy Meetings | _____ |
| 3. PNAC members planned war on Iraq in mid nineties. | _____ |
| 4. PNAC members appointed to key administrative positions | _____ |
| 5. Iraq war a 'done deal' the day after 9/11 attack | _____ |
| 6. Condoleezza Rice falsely claims no one knew planes could be weapons | _____ |
| 7. President Bush flies many in Bin Laden family to safety after 9/11 | _____ |
| 8. George Bush opposes independent investigation of 9/11 | _____ |
| 9. George Bush opposes formation of Homeland Security Dept. for 6 months | _____ |
| 10. Bush Doctrine declares right to preemptive nuclear attacks | _____ |
| 11. Ahmed Chalabi, accused felon, who lived in Iraq in the 1950's to be head of new Iraqi government | _____ |
| 12. Claims of Iraq nuclear plans based on forged document WMD evidence came from 12 year old paper on the Internet | _____ |
| 13. G. Bush, Sr. lied to Congress about Iraqi troops murdering babies and amassed troops to get war powers in First Gulf War | _____ |
| 14. Colin Powell lies in both speeches to UN | _____ |
| 15. Pre-emptive strike without immediate threat is violation of UN Charter | _____ |
| 16. Women of Iraq most liberated in Moslem world; face oppression after war | _____ |
| 17. Toppling of Saddam Statue staged by US | _____ |

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- 18. Halliburton, Dick Cheney's former employer, gets billions in unbid Iraq contracts _____
 - 19. Iraqi Ministry of Health ordered by US to stop counting civilian deaths, estimated to be more than 6 thousand _____
 - 20. President bars photographs of returning war dead. _____
 - 21. Numbers and injuries of American and coalition wounded not revealed _____
 - 22. President limits funds to 9/11 investigation; he and Cheney will not testify under oath, and will only answer questions by chairman for ONE hour _____
 - 23. Condoleeza Rice refuses to testify at open hearing of 9/11 Commission, and refuses to testify under oath _____
 - 24. White House accused of leaking name of CIA operative; Bush refuses to investigate for 12 weeks; Still no answers. _____
 - 25. Bush deletes dire global warming evaluation from EPA report _____
 - 26. Bush to continue use of land mines; refuses to sign treaty _____
 - 27. David Kay admits there were no WMD's. _____
 - 28. US distorted Al Qaeda link _____
 - 29. Kurdish forces captured Saddam; left him for US troops _____
 - 30. Bush first US president to need protection abroad _____
- TOTAL** _____
-

INTERPRETING YOUR SCORE:

Familiarity with these important news stories can range from a HIGHLY INFORMED score of 30 to and totally UNINFORMED score of 150. The higher the score, the LESS INFORMED is the voter. For example, a total near 75 suggests that the voter knows only about HALF of what is needed to make an informed decision!

Please share this with other potential voters. Decide whether you and they have the information you need on which to base your decision at the polls in November. If you do, you are the cornerstone of American democracy. If not, consider why. Have you been exposed to these stories by your news sources? Or, is your news being selectively reported to slant your opinions?

You have the RIGHT to be informed! You also have the responsibility to become informed. The fate of our nation depends on an informed electorate. Americans must go to the polls equipped with information that is reliable and complete. Once voters become aware of the perils of our information divide, there can be no excuse for an uninformed electorate. No excuse at all!



UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED WE FALL!

WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS ELECTION TO BE A GUESSING GAME

WE MUST ONCE AGAIN BE ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE!