

“All You Need To Know”

We **said recently** that we were not yet ready to venture an opinion on whether John Kerry's Christmas in Cambodia story was in essence true. Now Senator Kerry has **explained** the basis on which he wants us to form that opinion:

Speaking of the organization airing the ads that challenge his war record, Kerry said, “Of course, this group isn't interested in the truth and they're not telling the truth. ...

“But here's what you really need to know about them. They're funded by hundreds of thousands of dollars from a Republican contributor out of Texas. They're a front for the Bush campaign. And the fact that the President won't denounce what they're up to tells you everything you need to know.”

Some might say that *that* is all you really need to know. We disagree. The fact that the Senator is being evasive, petulant and paternalistic does not prove that he is a liar.

Thu, 08/19/2004 - 20:13 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permalink](#)

Right. It's Not Proof.

The World is correct that this statement doesn't prove that Kerry is a liar (well, he's a liar about what is, in fact, "everything you really need to know", but not necessarily about the facts of his service).

However, it does prove that he encourages people to draw conclusions using heuristics that are so bad that they would make the job of a would-be liar much easier.

This seems more consistent with the theory that he's interested in getting away with lying to them, than that he's interested in them knowing the truth.

Still not proof; but that's the way to bet.

Gil

by **Gil** on Thu, 08/19/2004 - 21:56 | [reply](#)

Campaign Financing Subterfuges

And for another side, about neither Bush nor Kerry being liars.

How about those ads? Is it dishonest to fund ads which are not telling the truth and loaded with contradictions? More than that, is it dishonest to orchestrate and fund smear campaigns and not identify yourself?

More than that, is it dishonest to conveniently forget that your time-honored political campaign contributors, wealthy texans which by itself is no crime, are the very same ones who are doing the dirty work, no, rather paying for the dirty work, and expecting political favors in return? Now that's too harsh, really they just believe in those ideals of some republican swift boat vets put to good and nasty use through influence and money and the in the righteous self interest of supporting the right wing republican principles of god and a former texas governor.

Bring it on.

by a reader on Sat, 08/21/2004 - 15:56 | [reply](#)

Re: Campaign Financing Subterfuges

The anonymous reader who finds the funding of non-Party ads more fascinating than their content will no doubt enjoy browsing [opensecrets.org](#), and comparing the financing & budget of **Swift Boat Veterans for Truth** with those of **a group running anti-Bush ads**.

by [Kevin](#) on Sat, 08/21/2004 - 17:21 | [reply](#)

Karl Rove, bigots, and smearing John McCain

Let's get down to brass tacks and talk about Karl Rove and Karl Rove's apparent opinion of veterans who served their country honorably.

John McCain, a Republican and Vietnam war hero, was attacked by Karl Rove and Christian Right Wingers in South Carolina. Rove and his sneaks implied that McCain fathered a black illegitimate child to gain votes from the bigots, take votes from McCain. Rove and his righteous sneaks implied also in a separate tactic that McCain fathered an illegitimate Cambodian child while in a POW camp thereby gaining gentle treatment from Cambodians. That approach was targeted to religious right vets in South Carolina to swing them away from McCain. In actuality, McCain had neither fathered a black child or an asian child.

McCain and his wife had adopted a Bangladeshi orphan years after the war from Mother Theresa's orphanage in Bangladesh, helping her also with medical treatment. The child was just dark enough to pass for black, for the South Carolinian bigots, or Cambodian for the South Carolinian angry vets. That's how Karl Rove and his sneaks work.

Who is Karl Rove? The former texas governor's prayer partner. That

is the kind of person you are dealing with from the righteous right when it comes to ad and campaign design. Just the facts. Connect the political dots. Draw your own conclusions as to trusted insiders and dishonest silence.

Source, Bill Rauch, speaking about Politicking, in response to a question from the audience about campaign tactics.

by a reader on Sat, 08/21/2004 - 19:13 | [reply](#)

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