Faith in the Fourth Estate—Fox News Rises to the Occasion

December 18, 2018

In our current political climate, the all too often knee-jerk refrain about the media is that they are “fake news” or politically biased. How refreshing it was, therefore, to witness a rhetorically effective example of journalism transcending such negative and frequently baseless stereotypes. This example is particularly noteworthy since it comes from a news organization I normally don’t trust.

On Wednesday (December 12), “Fox and Friends” interviewed Secretary of State Mike Pompeo about the attacks on Jamal Khashoggi. Despite their usual tendency to let Trump Administration officials off the hook, giving them a platform to disseminate propaganda, Fox journalists behaved like professional journalists—pushing Pompeo hard on the accuracy of his statements about whether the United States really is holding the Crown Prince accountable for his despicable actions.

I was delighted to see Fox reporters give Pompeo enough rope to reveal exactly how he is undermining our country, our intelligence agencies, as well as severely destroying his own credibility as Secretary of State.
This example should remind all of us about the important role played the Fourth Estate in a democratic nation, especially at a time when facts and truth have been undercut by the President of the United States.

*Richard Cherwitz*

*Austin, Texas*