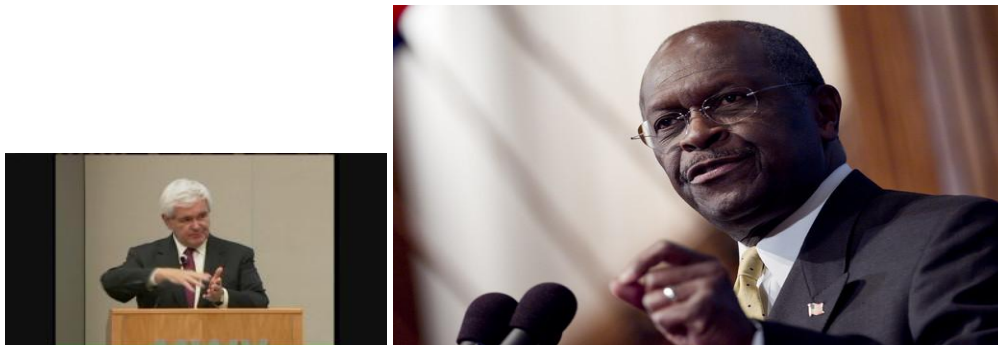


“Where is my Chief of Staff?” screamed Republican presidential candidate, Hermain Cain as he sought to deflect a question from a reporter who wanted more information about the sex harassment accusations against him. “Give him, the code of ethics for journalism”, Cain said. Nothing could be more ludicrous than that. Imagine a politician and business man with questionable moral rectitude facing an avalanche of criticisms for his canal rascality teaching journalists how to do their job. Clearly, there is not place in Cain’s resume that suggested that he ever taught journalism courses in the past. So, for him to assume that role in addition to campaigning for the presidency is simply laughable, defies logic, and a distraction.

Newt Gingrich, another candidate that surged to in the polls after a temporary lead by Hermain Cain is blaming the press for not reporting how the economy works. The reporting of his philandering behavior and ostentatious lifestyle by the media should satisfy him because the media is interested in helping citizens understand aspirants to public office so that they can make informed decisions during voting.

Yet another candidate Mitt Romney is being taken to task for a deceitful political ad. According to Arianna Huffington of the Huffington Post, Mitt Romney's brazenly dishonest ad is far from the garden-variety truth stretching we're used to in political campaigns. It is so breathtakingly cynical it should cause us to question whether a candidate that would put it forth is fit for any public office -- let alone the presidency. Along with being deceitful, the ad is also a challenge to the media. It's like when a toddler looks right at you and slowly and deliberately spills a glass of milk. The child wants to see the reaction. It's a test of boundaries. If there's no reaction, then the message is that it's okay. That Mitt Romney hasn't been forced to apologize for this ad, that he hasn't been forced to fire the team responsible for it, isn't just a failure of Romney's -- it's a failure of our media culture.

The lie is found in Romney's first television ad, run last week in New Hampshire. The ad shows President Obama saying, "If we keep talking about the economy, we're going to lose." What the ad doesn't tell you is that this was from 2008 -- and that Obama was quoting an aide to John McCain at the time. Here is the full Obama quote: "Senator McCain's campaign actually said, and I quote, 'if we keep talking about the economy, we're going to lose.'"



*Gingrich and Cain*