Dear Mainstream Press,

You’ve done it again. Your lack of responsible reporting has betrayed this great nation.

You have helped create this monster we now call President-elect Trump. It is up to you to bring him down, providing you have the backbone to do so.

Never before in our history have you, the press, been so complacent in an election as you have this past one. I have watched and listened to TV show hosts and moderators say that they have no obligation to fact-check. Are you kidding? This statement is the most absurd thing I have ever heard. While I understand that ratings are important, you as journalists have the responsibility to report the truth. The fact that you haven’t and can’t be bothered to ensure that the information you are relaying to your viewers is accurate is a great injustice to the people of this country. Perhaps the time has come for you to find another profession, as you clearly can’t do your job properly, nor do you seem to want to.

You tend to forget that your audience is made up of a diverse group of individuals, and sadly not all are intellectuals. You are dealing with many low-information voters who don’t require hard facts in order to be led in one direction or the other. These are the people who are easily swayed.

If you, the press, choose not to take an active role in presenting the facts to the people, then we are all doomed. To take zero responsibility is pathetic and spineless.

When you have candidates that are continuously spouting lies every time they open their mouths, and you the press do not rein them in, whose job is it then? If someone gives an opinion, that is one thing; you can either accept what they say or not. If a person wants to make a factual statement and it turns out to be a lie, and you can prove it is a lie, they should not be invited back on your show again, period. They just burned you and cast a shadow on your credibility. Have more pride.

The only thing I saw from all of you this past election is an utter desperation to report on everything this man said, whether it is the truth or not. You want to sell a paper, bump up your ratings, drive more traffic to your websites; I get it. But you are not selling cookies to consumers. You are journalists—do your job!

One final thought: There are more accurate articles in HUSTLER than in most of the coverage I have seen this past election. That says something now, doesn’t it?

Sincerely,

Larry Flynt
Chairman and President
LFP, Inc.