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Pay attention to the warnings of recent disasters

NPR, PBS provide views from both sides

The bulk of Republicans and tea party enthusiasts want to abolish much, if not all, taxpayer funding for NPR and PBS, despite the fact that more than 170 million of the more educated and informed Americans listen to public radio and watch television that focuses on education and the arts.

In particular, the critics argue that few conservative celebrities are given the opportunity to do commentary on NPR.

For example, the commentary presented by The National Press Club on NPR is definitely biased when such flaming liberal luminaries as Fred Thompson, Anne Korin, Richard Cheney, Mitt Romney, Joe the Plumber, Barbara Bush and Condoleezza Rice have addressed the club's journalists. We are also reminded that the ultra-liberal David Brooks is a regular commentator on the Friday afternoon PBS "NewsHour."

If Republicans and tea party enthusiasts had their way, I suspect they would dictate that NPR and PBS be funded by taxpayer money only if the sort of misinformation conjured by the Cato Institute, the American Enterprise Institute, the John Birch Society and Fox News were routinely presented.

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