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10 of the Worst Cable News Moments of 2015  —By Inac Oh (Jauthors/Inac-oh)   Thu Dec. 24, 2015 7:00 AM EST	
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Another year is about to pass, which means we've managed to survive 12 months of cable news—and endure some fantastically awful segments that the networks churned out. But that doesn't mean we emerged unscathed! Whether it was calling the president of the United States a "pussy" on live television or relentlessly covering Donald Trump's circuslike presidential campaign, cable news had plenty of lowlights in 2015. Here are some of the most memorable ones:	
San Bernardino shooting  Days after the shooting in San Bernardino, California, several media outlets were able to get inside the home of the two suspected shooters—access that involved a <a href="mailto:crowbar">crowbar</a> (http://www.thequardian.com/us-news/2015/dec/04/reporters-rush-into-home-san-bernardino-shooting-suspects) and a cooperative landlord. Despite the questionable circumstances, reporters from a slew of networks, including CNN and MSNBC, swarmed the residence. The resulting <a href="mailto:circus">circus</a> (http://www.motherjones.com/mixed-media/2015/12/cnn-msnbc-cable-news-san-bernardino-apartment) of cable TV coverage even disturbed some network hosts.	
"I'm having chills down my spine, what I'm seeing here," said CNN security analyst Harry Houck, as reporters on the scene continued to film throughout the home. "This apartment is clearly full of evidence."	
A look inside San Bernardino shooters' home	
At one point, an MSNBC reporter zoomed in on a driver's license that likely belonged to one of the suspects' relatives.	



#### Insulting the president

A Fox News contributor abandoned every sense of decorum when he slammed President Barack Obama's terrorism strategy and called him a "pussy" on live television. The network suspended him for two weeks, finally answering the question we've all wondered: "Just what does it take to get suspended from Fox News?"

Fox's Ralph Peters calls Obama a 'total pussy' on live TV







#### Migrant crisis and Syrian refugees

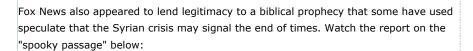
The international effort to resettle Syrian refugees sparked widespread concern about how refugees are vetted when they seek to be admitted into the United States, particularly in light of the deadly attacks in Paris. Instead of taking time to explain the complex and rigorous process, cable news shows often appeared to inflame safety concerns with misleading portrayals of refugees escaping violence in Europe and the Middle East:

Fox News Attacks Refugees - Racist Propaganda - Anti-Muslim









Syria in Bible Prophecy - Joel Rosenberg interviewed by Fox News... ( )



#### Gun control and mass shootings

Amid calls to strengthen gun control laws and end the gun violence epidemic, Fox & Friends aired a segment about how to teach kids how to take down an active shooter with these self-defense skills:

Krav Maga-Active Shooter Scenario- New York & Long Island





#### Freddie Gray

When protests erupted in Baltimore over the death of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old Baltimore resident who died from a spinal cord injury while in police custody, CNN chose to ignore the demonstrations in favor of covering every second of the White House Correspondents' Dinner.

If you were seeking coverage of the rallies, contributor Errol Louis suggested viewers could "find a live feed" somewhere else.

CNNHD 20150425 2200







When the network did report on Gray later, CNN led one online <a href="mailto:story">story</a>
(http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/30/us/baltimore-police-trial-freddie-gray-jury-selection/index.html?

sr=twCNN113015baltimore-police-trial-freddie-gray-jury-selection0604PMVODtopLink&linkId=19173468)

by describing Gray as the "son of an illiterate heroin addict."

Baltimore, Maryland (CNN)—The first of six city police officers went on trial Monday in a closely watched case involving a 25-year-old black prisoner who died after being shackled and placed without a seat belt in a Baltimore City police van.

The April 19 death of Freddie Gray, the son of an illiterate heroin addict, made him a symbol of the black community's distrust of police. His name is now invoked with those of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri; Tamir Rice in Cleveland, Ohio; Eric Garner in New York; and other black men who died during encounters with white police officers. In Gray's case, three of the officers charged are white; three black.

Lauren Krisai

Pollow

CNN...really? cnn.com/2015/11/30/us/...
3:36 PM - 30 Nov 2015

#### **Donald Trump**

There are myriad factors that have led to the rise of Donald Trump as a major GOP presidential candidate.—The media's insatiable appetite (including our own, at times) to cover his inflammatory campaign rhetoric is definitely one of them. On cable news, Trump was practically unavoidable.

After announcing his plan to bar all Muslims from entering the United States if elected president, a slew of cable news shows scrambled to talk to Trump about the proposal, which gave Trump a huge platform for his offensive ideas:



881

507



#### Leggings

In one of the creepier clips of the year, Fox News featured an all-male panel to opine on how a woman should dress in public. The clothing item in question was leggings. In the segment, the official "Panel of Fathers" ruminates over "lady parts" and whether they're comfortable with the "women in their life parading in public with leggings, because they ain't pants."

Fox News Asks Panel Of Men If Girls Should Wear Leggings







#### "Guardian Angels"

In which Fox News, a news organization, lends legitimacy to this photo of a "guardian angel."



foxandfriends

WATCH! Do you see the 'guardian angel'?

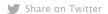
7:57 AM - 15 Dec 2015

17 3

#### Happy holidays!



(http://facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http://www.motherjones.com/mixed-media/2015/12/worst-cable-news-2015



http://twitter.com/home?status=These are some of the worst cable news moments of 2015 http://www.motheriones.com/mixed-media/2015/12/worst-cable-new

It Really Is Way More Expensive to Be a Woman (/mixed-media/2015/12/it-really-way-more-expensive-be-woman)

This Map Shows What Each State Googled More
Than Any Other in 2015 (/mixed-media/2015/12/hereswhat-each-state-googled-more-any-other-2015)



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He called President Obama a "pussy" on air.

Even Fox News Is Slamming Political Extremists for Refusing to Take in Refugees (/mixed-media/2015/11/fox-news-shepard-smith-refugees-isis)

Pay attention Republican governors.

Fox's Shepard Smith Just Tore NBC Apart for Inviting Donald Trump to Host SNL (/mojo/2015/10/shepard-smith-slams-nbc-for-nviting-donald-trump-to-host-snl)

Watch this.

 $\underline{\textbf{CNN Poll: Hillary Clinton Gains Ground on Bernie Sanders}} \ (/\texttt{kevin-drum/2015/09/cnn-poll-hillary-clinton-gains-ground-bernie-sanders}) \ (/\texttt{kevin-drum/2015/09/cnn-poll-hillary-clinton-gains-ground-bernie-sanders)) \ (/\texttt{kevin-drum/2015/09/cnn-poll-hillary-clinton-gains-gains$ 

Trump to CNN: Your Profits Are "Due 100% to 'Donald J. Trump'" (/moio/2015/09/donald-trump-cnn-profits-veterans-charity)
The GOP front-runner is urging the station to give the money to charity.

Mother Jones encourages readers to sign in with Facebook, Twitter, Google, Yahoo, Disqus, or OpenID to comment. Please read our comment policy (/about/interact-engage/comment-policy) before posting.

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