

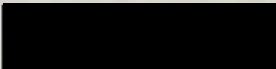
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6 Jan 1990
C-SPAN Update
Viewer Mail
400 N. Capital St. N.W.
Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001
Att. Brian Lamb


Bothell, WA 98011

Dear Mr Lamb,

I have become a C-SPAN addict over the last 2 years and I truly appreciate the service you provide to bring out various points of view on important issues. However, I feel your typical "call-in" shows have one serious "flaw" that was particularly visible on the 5 Jan show that included Susan Macabee, Andrew Glass and James Gannon.

The topic was the Panama invasion and persons calling in represented both sides of the issue, whether the invasion was justified. A lady from Chicago called in and gave a most logical and persuasive explanation why she thought Noriega was getting a raw deal, and why the presidents and CIA people should go the electric chair with Noriega. And she asked "when will we begin to take the blame for what we do".

The panel disposed of her complaint without answering her questions-in fact, did not even try to deny the truth of her statements. In a matter of 20 seconds or so another caller was on the line with a new, and different question.

In my opinion, the effectiveness of your "call-in" shows would be increased dramatically if you would insist that panel members truly address the questions asked. Perhaps the problem could be reduced if you made sure both the right and the left were represented on each panel. But even then you sometimes have to deal with problems that are so popular with the public in general that the neither the right or left will support a challenge. The invasion of Panama is just such a problem.

I happen to be among the 9% of the population that was against the invasion the day after it happened. I am ashamed for my government that it must prove it's manhood and non-wimp character by invading tiny countries "at will". And I am absolutely sure that the reasons given for our invasion are not the "real reasons".

In the decade just ended we have flaunted our military power at will and "in effect" informed the world that "we" are the policeman of the world. And the majority of our citizens, who have been fed a continuous diet of flag waving and nationalist propaganda that we are "number one", support our aggression without question.

6 JAN 1990

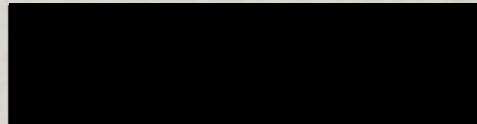
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No one nation can rule the world when the current weapons of war are so terribly destructive and so widely spread. We will destroy ourselves, and the world, if we do not curb our nationalistic fervor

I am writing to you on this subject because I feel the only media forms that can appreciably change public opinion are radio and TV talk shows. There is hope that at least some of the propaganda normally accepted will be exposed when citizens call in and voice their true opinions.

I hope I have not offended you in any way because I consider you and the other moderators on C-SPAN to be tops in your field. My suggestion for change is prompted by my desire to see a better informed public that will insist on truth from its government and will vote accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.