

## I watch C-SPAN Because!

1. Because I just basically enjoy watching and hearing knowledgeable people presenting their expertise in their particular fields of journalism, science, politics, literature, etc.
2. With C-SPAN I find that I don't need local or area newspapers to keep abreast of the issues and current happenings that are of interest to me. If a local issue comes up, I will look at the local TV or listen to the radio news, this however seldom happens since I lose interest rapidly listening to the repetitious dialogue of the media while they wait for something new to happen. This brings me to the next and very important feature of C-SPAN.
3. I am very impressed with the professionalism of the hosts and moderators and the manner in which they conduct the dialogue with the callers and their guests. This is a very pleasant departure from the local and sometimes network folks that find it necessary to become comedians while doing the news, sports, and weather, with obvious results being that they "bombed-out" in both efforts. The patients and consideration that you extend to callers that may not be too articulate or have a problem in getting their question over is a very refreshing practice. Included in this area is the assistance that hosts give to callers of foreign backgrounds in getting them focused onto a point or extracting their thoughts for the guest to respond to. I feel sure this is a genuine effort of interest and not just because the caller has paid his nickel and in that sense you are obligated.
4. The broad variations of program subject matter makes viewing C-SPAN interesting to me. The visits to the various major newspapers have been an interest to me,

being able to see and hear from the various reporters as to how they see their jobs in serving their editors and the readers. More important to me was the area or regional differences that exist due to the local politics in a given area and the impact or effect that this has on the content of the newspaper in that area.

5. In an effort to provide you with the ability to put their comments into perspective, let me give you a few clues as to where I come from.

I am a white male, 3rd generation American, 62 years of age, a retired Aerospace Engineer, married, 2 kids, 2 grand children.

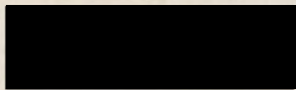
Being an early riser (5:00am) and utilizing my amateur radio hobby, I listen to many foreign broadcasts and have dialogue with many people around the world which I use in aiding in formulating my thoughts and opinions on matters of the day. I try to devote 7:00am to 9:00am to C-SPAN, occasionally I get locked-on and am still watching you at noon. Generally I get back to the radio in the early evening to hear the news out of the orient and the Pacific nations.

As I procrastinated on doing the income tax til the last minute, here I am again at noon on this the 25<sup>th</sup> of April trying to assemble notes that I have been making for the past year or so.

In closing, I hope I have imparted to you the fact that I enjoy and approve of C-SPAN's programming, policy, and personnel. Congratulations on surviving and growing over the last 5 years. Say a prayer of thanks that you have not succumbed to a format of chaos where everyone is shouting at once as witnessed by "Cross-Dire".

Sincerely,  
Jeff Saal

Thanks and keep up the good work



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