

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02139
Professor Noam Chomsky, [REDACTED]

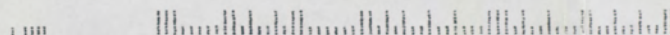
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USA

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[REDACTED]
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801-5419



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Department of Linguistics and Philosophy
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

August 12, 1993

Dear Karin,

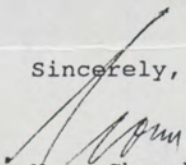
I'm afraid I can't enlighten you about Brian Lamb. I don't recall any contact. I also don't know a lot about C-SPAN. We don't have cable, and I've never seen it.

My office has received occasional calls from C-SPAN (I don't know from whom) inviting me to be on, but it's impossible for me, given my schedule, to take a day to fly to Washington to appear on a TV show. I'm scheduled very heavily, long in advance, and it's not easy even to find an hour for a local studio, let alone a day for one elsewhere. I've always informed them that if I come to Washington, I'll be more than pleased to try to work something into the visit -- always very brief, planned years in advance, and filled to the brim. On one recent trip I gave a talk at a university which was videotaped and played on C-SPAN, so I heard.

The intensity of the schedule, incidentally, is in part a consequence of the very narrow spectrum of the mainstream media, which make it necessary to look elsewhere -- mostly talks around the country, which have to be planned far ahead because invitations come thick and fast. So it's a kind of catch-22. When a rare invitation does come along, it usually turns out that I'm booked up, and travel is generally impossible, for the same reasons.

Interested to hear about your work. [redacted] was just here visiting for a few weeks. She's living in Nicaragua, has a 16 month old baby now.

Sincerely,


Noam Chomsky

27th August 1993

Friday

Portsmouth, NH, 03801-5419

Dear Mr. Lamb,

If you, not just your staff, read my last & 1st letter you will already be familiar with my purpose.

Enclosed is a photostat of a letter I received c. August 17th, dated 8/12/93, from Professor Noan Chomsky. Perhaps your dealer from Madison Wisconsin would like a copy.

Professor Chomsky's daughter & I were friends at Brown University in RI, and therefore the friendship and seemingly "familiarity."

Watching your "attempt" at a wrongly conceived point-counter-point show on Monday August 23rd (AM) with guests Pat Buchanan and Chris Hitchens, I know Mr. Hitchens indirectly, as he worked on a video for Tom Shatey in this "Portsmouth, New Hampshire and myself for a D.O.V/PBS entry about Persian Gulf War protesters - we stayed with the Hitchens family. I thought you were misjudged & no better than a "potter" taking pro-con cash that day. Mr. Hitchens like myself is a socialist and you know it ... therefore he / Mr. Hitchens was

Correct when he said "It is not pro's or con's, but a dialectic." I have, in the past called DC (not on the air, but the production office) to request a way to screen calls, get an 800 number, use a pro & con on some issues not personalities and other ideas which seem to not interest you or your staff. Pro-con is for any calls (for example) for or against an issue or bill — like motor-votes on the budget. Do not, please, stop using it entirely.

In this letter, the opening line about "enlightening you about Broad Land, was a question I posed to Noam about the possibility of your having your own agenda (re: your Nixon years with Mr. Buchanan) and why you don't do certain things like suggest "other" Noam Chomsky books in lieu of his schedule. For some real scholars Mr. Chomsky is IT!!! The lack of his presence creates a "semester" vacancy — he is so well known that his not appearing & you not just saying "Mr. Chomsky is booked into the year 2007, but here is his address — is a noticable void not filled by Cockburn or Wickham "on another day." The true left gets no air time à la Limbough, Stern, and Jerry Williams — his work cannot be compared. His

devotees will not settle for your saying "If you watched another day you'd see...". As a left leaning Democratic Liberal I would say you cannot tell someone to read the K. Phillippe book Soaring Secret in lieu of The Communist Manifesto, Eutopia, The Prince, or The Republic and others — that I read in 10th Grade. Your booknotes would also be better — It is advertising for bestsellers not just "The Real Anita Hill" or The Pillars. I liked Savage's book on the East Turning Right. People don't read anymore, nor can they choose a book well (there's the Newsweek piece about how the Best Seller list itself and TV keep a book like The Bridges of Madison County and The Way Things Out to Be). Why not do a booknote on publishing — period.

Mr. Chomsky wrote in the 3rd Paragraph the Conundrum you face, TV gives people no tool to assess "other" materials like books. When I you and I got a call about Professor Chomsky I would say "C-SPAN has tried to book Mr. Chomsky, but his schedule is overloaded — however, you need not only wait for him to appear on our network, but read more of his and other books." My mother, a George Bush Republican (i.e. moderate) died on the [redacted] this month after her 12th ICU

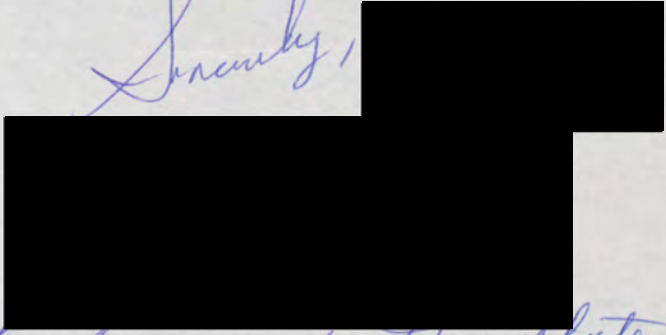
stay after aortic valve replacement by the famed [redacted]
(I cut open the shadow man, John Wayne, Henry Kissinger
and Red Auerbach), I survived this little ^{upon} returning
from the Hospital on 8/17th/93 — ~~at~~ her death
she was watching L-Span and reading The Communist
Manifesto and The Way Things Ought to Be — she was

[redacted] must encourage further reading & research (like
reading Rainbow). Marshall McLuhan, The Medium is
The Message warned of what is happening in America.

I've applied for work (I was layed off due to
budget cuts) as a school/media specialist in Oct 1992 —
over my answering machine. I've applied to L-Span
10 times in 5 years and never gotten any acknowledgment.
I am one of those "skilled - very skilled" workers who
will forever be displaced while trying to work in
media subsided for minimum wage. My cousin
in Zurich, [redacted] is with CBS/Phillips as [redacted]
[redacted] and [redacted]. He won't help — even
his sister. Their father died on [redacted] (my
uncle, my mother's sister's husband) leaving a \$20 million +
estate in AT&T stock. [redacted] refuses to hand it
to his sister and wants to "grow" the \$20 into
\$30... They are 57, 52, 49, & 47!

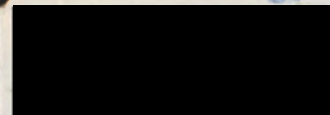
To Mr. Lamb, I did write & call Noam — will
you inform your viewers. They are, I hear well
in a revolt (again Monday the 23rd/8) with you —
If you have call-in shows you could strive to do
better than Larry King.

Since I want to all this effort, I'd like
some acknowledgment, it's not about being totally equal,
or balanced — it is about fairness and questions.
When you choose only Dangerous cartoons you're told
your audience about — you. Please don't
become, as it were, the "Fair" Limbaugh, King
as, I'll look forward to hearing from you

Sincerely,


P.S.

I am available to work for you in this state —
just call me. I am an academic not a
nut.



Portsmouth, NH 03801-5419



Personal

Mr. Brian Lamb.
C-SPAN / TV
400 N. Capital St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001