

[redacted] - Monroe, N.Y.
10950

Wednesday 8/24/94

Dear C-Span

Call-in

I hesitate to write. It was only in the early summer that I first discovered you — and I was really thrilled. By listening, I first learned what a "mark up" is (Senate Banking Committee on the Health Bill). Never before had I realized this part of the process for getting a Bill through Congress. I was enthralled to become so well educated. But —

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} But having watched closely now through the whole process up until today, I am beginning to wonder about the educational value of all this.

Not because of the good sources you provide for the discussions of your news. They are usually respectable — although often the "Liberal" voice you present seems to me to be only barely left of center, while the conservative

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often seem to me to be FAR to the right — though ~~not~~ maybe not radical.

Also, it seems to me that your call-in programs (8-9:30 AM) have almost been taken over by an organized effort to defeat Crime & Health and/or anything that represents a desire to have our elected government take care of some, at least, of our National problems. I am not a part of an organized program, but I — and most of my friends — rarely hear our viewpoint represented.

Meanwhile, we hear the biggest repetition over & over of misrepresentation of the facts. You'd think they never read the papers!

It would be my feeling that a station like C-Span — wanting, I'm sure to encourage the discussion of facts — could come up with some kind of balancing factor other than

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"the more they call the more they
can say" * I'm a valuable person,
but if I called I would express
only my own opinions. But on
the Crime Bill (& on the Health
Bills, too) I keep hearing the exact
same words over & over again.
And they all sound like mostly
ancient people — not that we
elderly people should not be
heard, but someone needs to
evaluate if that is a general
opinion. (Not to worry; I am nearly 77.)

I'm now to the point where
when I tune in, I take note of
what's being presented. I listen
to the Govt discussions; I hear the
columnists & qualified expert types.
And — would you believe — I always
sit & watch the electronic tallies
because the choice of music is absolutely
great! Sincerely [redacted]

* I heard this ^{complaint} responded to last week, but
really, I wasn't convinced!