

Sunday Nov. 21, 1999
O.W.

Dear Brian,

I am a northern New Hampshire resident, a "senior citizen" mother of two sons in their early fifties - one of whom is named Brian. I refer to you as my "second-favorite" Brian!

C-SPAN viewing has become a "must" since I acquired a satellite dish a little over two years ago. We have no cable service available in our town.

Recently you were quite amused by all the "English 101" advice received one morning? So here is a bit more? You often refer to guests as having "graduated" from Harvard - or Yale? In the old days we were taught that one doesn't graduate from a school - rather - one is graduated from said school? One "graduates" a beaker, or a thermometer with a measurement scale, but a student is a "passive" recipient of a degree of learning. Of course - over the years - usage of the English language changes. Unfortunately!

Let me echo all the praises you receive from your viewers, and those who appear on your show. Your patience is a marvel! You are wise to eliminate simultaneous opposition parties at your table. It becomes stressful viewing and listening, otherwise. One learns much more when just one side is aired - along with what little opinion they can squeeze out of you?

I would suggest, however, that your guests be asked not to interrupt a caller before he or she has completed their questions or comments? As many of them say - it is their "nickle" - it has been a costly wait to get on the air? The option to interrupt should be reserved for you or your other hosts who are skilled in deciding the appropriateness of the callers' language.

and/or subject matter?

Perhaps everybody in the world knows more about you than do we up here in the "Boonies" - but, I can't be all alone in wishing to know a bit more about your background, life history, accomplishments - interests, etc. - ? Is there a "bio" available on you? Are you going to do an autobiography some day? After all, you are very persistent about seeking these details concerning your guests? ☺

My sons would tell you that I am the world's best worrier! So I'll tell you that I worry about you! Anyone who has achieved so much admiration and popularity on television, particularly in a political field, is at risk in this crazy world? You should be guarded when out in public. For all I know this is the case. I'm sure your family must share this concern - but I get the impression you'd "poo-poo" the idea?

You are rare in your efforts to preserve our country's meaning - and future! There are millions of us who would endorse any desire you might have to assume some political position - yet I have heard you laugh off that idea with "Believe me, it will never happen!" Well, if not - for goodness sake hang on to the bully-pulpit at C-SPAN! It's even more powerful than that in the White House! But, please keep in mind that it makes you vulnerable!

I wish you continued success, health, and happiness!

Sincerely



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