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7 September 1993

[REDACTED]
*Penndel, Bucks County
Pennsylvania 19047-7174*

Dear Mr. Lamb,

I don't know whether your clipping service monitors the BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES.

If the event they do not, I thought you would be interested in seeing the enclosed article which appeared on the editorial page this morning.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Encl: "What the Major Media Aren't Telling Us"

Mr. Brian Lamb
Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network
400 North Capitol Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20001

What the major media aren't telling us

Stephen Whitehurst

Being an avid reader of newspapers, magazines, and a constant viewer of television newsmakers, talk shows such as Crossfire, Capitol Gang, Evans & Novak and others, I have come to a conclusion. The dominant media are indulging in what I call "selective reporting."

Take the Rodney King incident. The partial amateur videotape of the so-called beating was played over and over on the nightly news. It affected the jurors and their decisions in not one but two trials, which brings up the problem of "double jeopardy" and may result in two- to four-year sentences for the two officers found guilty in the second trial.

But what of the videotape of the Reginald Denny beating — a white truck driver caught in the middle of obvious anarchy in L.A. because the first jury acquitted these same policemen? Do we see it night after night on the TV news with appropriate comment to rile the possible

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jurors of those black hoodlums involved?

Back in the spring a homosexual rights rally was held in Washington, D.C. All the dominant media reported that 1 million were present and that it compared to the Martin Luther King rally of 30 years ago. But what actually happened? Well, objective estimates said the crowd was nearer

100,000 to 300,000 and the nightly news programs showed the usual marches and signs.

But C-SPAN showed the demonstration to be more like a carnival sideshow. Only C-SPAN showed the bare-breasted nudity, the vulgarity, the obscenity, the foppish behavior, public sex and the outrageousness of the speakers and performers. Why did the media give the gays' rally a free ride?

On May 22 in Fort Collins, Colo., about 80,000 people from all over the world, united by common sense and decency, gathered in the name of conservatism. No rock bands or other entertainment — just one man, Rush Limbaugh, was the attraction. It resulted in seven-mile-long traffic jams, but the area was left clean, no vandalism, no arrests, no drug incidents, no militant chanting or law-breaking. It got no headlines in the dominant media of Peter Jennings, Tom Brokaw or Dan Rather. Why? The Colorado anti-gay rights Amendment 2 got more mention.

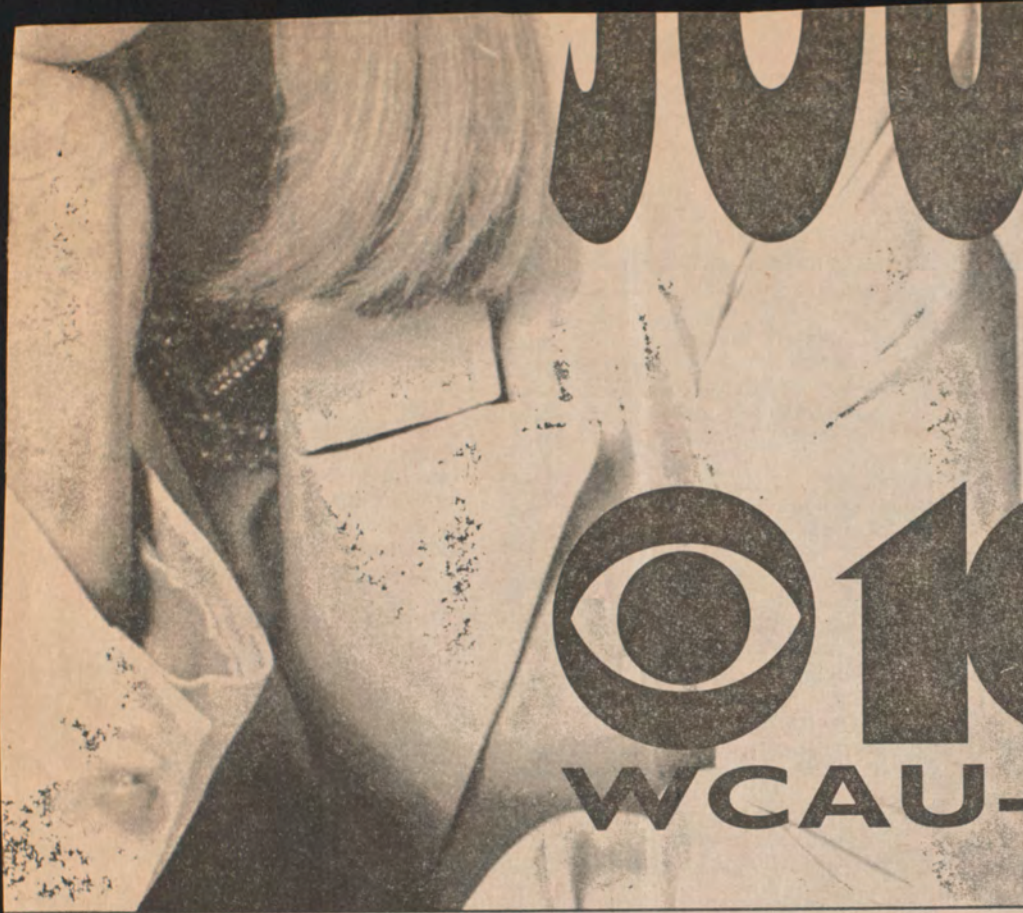
Just recently Pope John II visited

Denver and it was a triumph, demonstrating that millions of people — not only Catholics, or even believers — respond with joy to reaffirmations of the morality the modern West so sorely lacks. Even President Clinton and Vice President Gore paid their respects to a man who opposes everything they stand for.

But what did the dominant media report? The usual stories of pedophile priests, opinion polls purporting to show large numbers of Catholics reject Vatican "views" and "policies" on birth control, clerical celibacy, abortion and so forth. Nothing about the pope and the Catholic Church performing its mission when it stands against the pressures of popular sentiment.

These are a few, and there are many examples of such "selective reporting." It would behoove us all to pay attention and judge accordingly. Is the dominant media a liberal voice of the government, unelected but potent nevertheless?

Stephen Whitehurst, a retiree, lives in Levittown.



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