

I watch C-SPAN because...

There are many pay TV networks that focus on one subject. For instance, CHN focuses on health, and CNN's main topic is news updates. I have nothing against networks like these, but I can only sit and view them for an average amount of time without tiring of them. On the other hand, C-SPAN or the Congress Channel, as it is better known to me, is different from the rest. There are three main reasons why I watch this network.

First of all, being in my early teens, only recently have I taken an interest in current events. This being the case, many times my free-time schedule will include reading the newspaper, watching the news, and especially watching C-SPAN. I enjoy watching C-SPAN more than the news or reading the newspaper because the station is much more thorough. On the news and in the newspaper, the reports given only tell me WHAT happened, WHAT was debated, and the final outcome. When watching C-SPAN, I get to see HOW the issue is being discussed, or debated, and HOW the final result is approached through the discussion or debate. Plus, I see all of the minor arguments that aren't told about in the news.

Secondly, C-SPAN keeps my attention because instead of showing one thing all of the time, like the House of Representatives, it shows different things like close-ups of "Issues for the 80's" and "Election 84-Special Interest Groups." Also, whenever a pause takes place for the Representatives to vote, instead of silence and a blank TV screen, I get to see the votes as they are electronically recorded, and besides that, hear classical music, which I really enjoy since I am a great fan of this type of music.

Third, I just love watching the debates and disputes of the Representatives. The Representatives sometimes remind me of children, having childlike, red-faced quarrels over grown-up issues. It's also fun to watch our Representative (William Thomas-R) as he speaks and make his comments, especially when he wins an argument.

Lastly, C-SPAN is one of my very favorite networks. It is really like a full-time news show, only much more interesting. C-SPAN shows variety and isn't boring. Also, the network not only tells what is going on in the world, it shows. Finally, the house floor debates really amuse me when the Democrats and Republicans get into a juicy argument and show their contrasting opinions.

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