

From: [REDACTED]
To: viewer@c-span.org
Date sent: Sat, 13 Sep 1997 11:59:32 -0800
Subject: Dr. Keyes' Speech not aired
Send reply to: [REDACTED]
Copies to: [REDACTED]
Priority: normal

Dear C-SPAN e-mail Coordinator,

What possible reason could your organization have to justify cutting away from live coverage of the Christian Coalition's "Road to Victory" conference BEFORE Dr. Alan Keyes' address to show a tape of the Chinese Communist Party Opening two days ago?

When was the last time you read your organization's charter? Does it not say something about, "...opening up the American Political Process..."?

Don't you think that he speaks well enough to warrant public exposure? I know! You think his message isn't relevant to contemporary American politics!

No, that is obviously laughable to anyone who has ever heard him speak. Let me try one last time. You don't like the content of his message and have decided to join your media "Big Brothers" in making him invisible.

Well that certainly couldn't be the explanation because you used to show his speeches. I know, because C-SPAN is where I first saw and heard him speak AND HE WAS RIVETING!! Imagine a candidate with a message that America's problems are based in our immorality and our failure to construct a society consistent with OUR CHARTER the Declaration of Independence.

No, you certainly do not suppress anybody, right?! You are a VERY professional organization and you have checks and safeguards in place AND FUNCTIONING to insure that you do not consistently or systematically block Americans from seeing any incredibly articulate, intellectually influential person with a history of participation in the American political process, right?

Of course. It is just that in the minds of your incredibly sharp,

intelligent, professional programming editors and staff, a taped opening ceremony of the Chinese Communist Party right next door on the other side of the planet is so compelling and relevant to those tuned in to hear the Christian Coalition convention, that a Black conservation whom history will probably show is THE RIGHTFUL HEIR to Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy pales in comparison. That must be it!

Plus, what about all of those loyal Americans who are hanging on every word from the party in Beijing? They have rights too don't they. They have been waiting patiently for two whole days to be a part of a world event that is smack dab in the middle of C-SPAN's charter. Hey! What about them?

Besides, C-SPAN couldn't possibly be suppressing Dr. Alan Keyes, because...because how about the "Midwestern Republican Leadership Conference just a few short weeks ago? I mean, didn't you cover EVERY potential Republican candidate at the conference including Dr. Keyes? You did, didn't you? You didn't! You covered everybody BUT DR. ALAN KEYES!

Thanks for one more brick in my wall of cynicism about the present and future of American Politics and the important role played by the media. ARE YOU THERE TO "OPEN THE PROCESS" or TO "GUARD THE D PROCESS THAT IS BEING PRIED OPEN IN THE PERIOD AFTER THE "COL DISTRACTION"?

I'd like your answer in the form of your actions, not in the form of some bland and profunctor e-mail that refuses to acknowledge that your behavior IS functioning within a larger media agenda to suppress Dr. Keyes' and his message. "SHOW ME THE SCHEDULE" of the last time you aired one of Dr. Keyes' speeches, "SHOW ME THE SCHEDULE" of when he will be included in your future programming.

Oh, but there is another, separate, really good and practical reason why you can't show me either, right? Gosh, what a surprise!!

VERY DISSAPPOINTED WITH C-SPAN,

