

I Watch C-SPAN Because.

1. There is no other source, printed or electronic which provides as open a window on the world of public affairs. Brian Lamb's call-in programs provide the viewer with a unique opportunity not only to consider analysis, both informed and uninformed, by a diverse assortment of observers of the public scene, particularly in matters political/, which, of course, are the life-blood of modern civilization. This is accomplished mainly by means of interviews with well-known or exceptionally accomplished members of the press or political life, and, to a lesser extent, by complete coverage of the activities of the House of Representatives, balancing a wide spectrum of personalities and philosophies. It is comprehensive.
2. It is completely dedicated to public affairs, which should be television's major contribution to the public good. It does not distract me with ordinary network and local type news programs, little more than broadcasting of headlines by personable announcers with seductive voices; nor does it prompt me to change stations by interpolating commercials, sit-coms, sports, fiction specials, white papers, talk shows, evangelists, etc. This is a great relief. It unglazes my eyes.
3. It very effectively, but subtly combats provincialism by means of the national scope of its call-in programs. even those they only reflect the ideas and attitudes of those willing and able to bear the cost.
4. It provides an opportunity to observe and evaluate the behavior of our Congressmen and other public figures of politics and the press.
5. It exposes the manner in which news is presented and editorial opinion is expressed.
6. It eschews "human interest" stories.
7. It does not entrap its guests by leading questions with doubtful premises.

(I Watch C-SPAN BECAUSE. . . .)

8. It grinds no axes.

/ It mitigates my prejudices.

9.

10. It is the best alternative to anything else on the tube.

My grandchildren

do not HAVE to ~~watch~~ watch "Dallas" or "General Hospital".