

WJ

May 22, 1995

Dear Brian,

I watched your show this morning, on how out of touch the news is with the public. Like a lot of the callers, I don't even bother to watch TV news, and I just scan through the paper. The biggest grip I have with main stream news, and your show is also guilty of it is, you just tell us what people say, instead of explaining what the facts are. As Mr. Wooten and the other woman said, you are probably more informed than most people are, but we would never know that by what you report.

If I hear one more time that the Republicans are taking the food out of school children's mouths, or they are taking medicare away from seniors, I may not turn on my TV again. If you are going to have two guests on of opposite views, why don't you do your homework and get involved in the debate. If it is a show or an article on medicare, the reporter should have his facts. This way when a the Democate says that the Republican is cutting medicare, and they respond that they are only slowing the growth, you can step in and INFORM your viewers, that \$100.00 was spent on the program this year, and the Republicans want to spend \$110.00 and the Democrats want to spend \$120.00, and what that would mean to voters. Not just let them go back and fourth saying the same things for the entire time they are on.

We don't get any information from hearing sound bites from both sides. Give us facts, no one believes the extremes on either side. You just pander to both sides, allowing them to carry on like children, with what they think we want to hear. The news is so out of touch, that they don't even know the difference between informing people by reporting and entertaining them with Hard Copy. The public has such a low opinion of the news due to the fact that the news treats us as if we were children, and too stupid to know that most of what we are being told, is just staged for TV. If I happen to tune into the House when members are giving one minute speeches, its laughable, to see grown men and women carrying on this way.

The political system has deteriorated, because of the way the media covers these people. They are actors first, Senators and Representatives last. Just watch the House or the Senate in action and you would think that you were in grade school, with children trying to see who can get the most attention. They don't care if what they say is true or not, as long as they can get on TV for twenty second that night. And the reason that there isn't any respect for the media, is because all you do is report it as they say it. If some person isn't

telling the truth, or exaggerating it to extremes, and all you do is let them go on, then you aren't any better than the person lying.

The biggest problem for politicians and the media is, we're not as stupid as you give us credit for!!! Lets keep the phonies off TV, and lets start to inform people, instead of putting on side shows.

P.S. Please sent a copy of this to Jim Wooten, and the other young lady from CBS.

Thank you,



Baldwin, New York 11510