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FAX

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4/18/97

C-Span
400 N. Capitol St., #650 NW
Washington, DC 20002

Attn. Mr. Lamb:

Please accept my comments in the spirit of comity.

I am very concerned if not grieved that the ratio of liberal journalists to conservatives is greatly skewed. Seldom is a conservative on alone.

You deemed it fair to have separate lines when more Republicans than Democrats called in but you do not use the same standard with respect to the bent of your journalists when only one is seated. With liberals journalist outnumbering

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conservatives perhaps as much as 80 or 90 % in Washington, it may mean you need to try harder.

When you do have conservatives you commonly pair them up for an adversarial dialogue--that is fair and fair. Just because a journalist is of some repute in "media-land" doesn't mean they don't have a point of view. They do. That's fine. The side they are on emerges even if they seek to hide or deny it--that too is fine. Just make it equal. Both sides.

Your directors know the bent of the journalists well. I might say they need to put aside their own feelings. Apply the "three telephone line fairness" standard to your the choice of journalists also. Just make it equal—just make it fair. You need to go beyond your good intentions and make it happen. You need to do it because you are not doing it now.

Kindest regards,

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