

[REDACTED]
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

May 2, 1992

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN

Dear Sir:

First, permit me to say, as do many others, that your programs are, in the main, instructive and, frequently, enjoyable.

Next, however, there appears to be a vast preponderance of liberal and ultra-liberal opinion voiced by at least a substantial majority of your guests. This may be inevitable since (a) you draw heavily from members of the media and (b) a number of polls have indicated a heavy liberal bias among the members of the media. (If memory serves me, more than 70% of the media, in post-election polls, indicated they had supported George McGovern.)

This letter, often conceived in my mind but never before written, is prompted by your program of May 1st, where your guests were, respectively, Wolf, Gannon and Moore. The central theme was the Los Angeles police trial. Each of your guests appeared to vie with the others in condemning the verdict, notwithstanding that it seemed clear that not one of them had attended the full several-month trial, had not inspected the exhibits, had not read the judge's instructions to the jury and had not heard the final arguments. In short, it appeared they were expressing visceral reactions, predictably left-of-center, equally predictably poorly informed.

I have no right to tell you who to select as your guests; surely the individual names must be left to you, just as I would claim the same right were I the host. But as an interested listener, I do venture to say your programs would be more interesting if you would, at least from time to time, introduce a leaven of some conservative viewpoint.

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May 10, 1992

Miss Clara Bingham
Newsweek
Washington, D. C.

Miss Bingham:

In the past few days, on C-SPAN, you characterized, in substance, the Los Angeles police verdict as unjust. Having practiced trial law for over forty years, it would never occur to me to presume to express an opinion on the outcome of a jury trial unless I had, at a minimum:

1. Listened to every word spoken by every witness.
2. Examined every piece of evidence.
3. Considered the demeanor of each witness.
4. Weighed why available witnesses with relevant knowledge did not testify.
5. Considered the final arguments.
6. Read the Court's instructions to the jury.

May I ask that you refrain from offering definitive comments on jury trials unless you have done the six things set forth above? I have discussed the trial with three lawyers, all in practice over thirty years. Each said, as I did, that they were surprised. Not one ventured to express an opinion on the "fairness" of the outcome. Should not these concepts offer a guide for journalists?

Respectfully,
[REDACTED]

cc: Mr. Brian Lamb

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