

opinion
JST

November 18, 1994

Dear C-Span,

I have just been watching the Call-In with, Dan Thomasson (Scripts Howard) Dan Scanlan (NBC Mutual Radio) and Karen Hosler (Baltimore Sun).

First, the black man who called in and had "figured it out" was, basically, proven correct in his understanding by the way Brian "blew him off" with the comment/"inflection" he made when challenging the caller by saying, "so you 've got it figured out, and we should be doing something different, I don't understand", Mr. Lamb, the understanding is in the caller's comments quoting the journalist at the 1950's something Press Club Meeting, which alluded to the notion that honesty in the Press, is a little less compelling than a fake orgasm, (my words not the Journalists) or rather, isn't proof of this issue of openness found in the comments commonly spoken by the "lame duck", or outgoing Representative, which is described by the Media as candor, or matter-of-factly, or whatever linguistic backflip you (journalists) apply to justify all that time spent in Nerdville (College English, or, college in general)?

I relate directly to the caller from Boise who complained that his paper is from Gannett (the Dan Quayle Agency) because the AZ Republic, that we receive, is a Quayle paper, and I assure you if they've (AZ Rep) kept all my letters in a separate file, they got alot.

But, that's not what I wanna talk about, my main concern about the above issues, and also, in relation to GATT, is about propaganda.

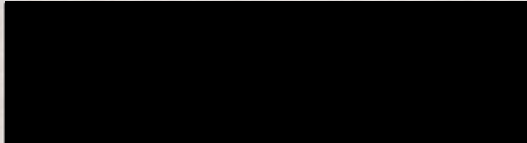
The picture is crystal clear, at least to Me and that old black guy who "got it figured out", in the years that the Maquiladora plants have been in operation, not to mention the proliferation of items from other foreign countries, the standard of living in the United States has declined. The "white collar" folks are now being indoctrinated to the reality of specializing in, maybe, a dozen different areas in a "lifetime", the idea of one-job/job security gone, most say forever, and the "middle class" is indentured to a position wherever, saddled with the "new" rules of engagement, no backtalk, act satisfied with the meager piss "they" toss at you, and smile all the while "they" talk about "downsizing" (is that two words?) and wages based on a "competitive" scale. In the construction trades they used to say, "My way or the highway", usually gesturing with their thumbs in a hitchhike motion. Oh yea, the "new" rules of engagement apply double for the white collar folks, along with "know what to kiss, and when".

I'm starting to ramble, but I gotta address the way everybody "blew off" the lady who called from the South, Brian described her to the viewers and panel as an ex-Marine and teacher, among other things I guess, and after her basically scathing remarks on honesty/integrity and her view of reality in general, all the panel had to say was, "She says alot of true things" (Dan Thomasson), "Guilty about the checkbook" (Dan Scanlan), "What a voice" (Karen Hosler) "Sounds like right out of Streetcar". The disdain that the "college types" have for the general public is indicative from the lack of honest reply from your featured panelists at times like this, and cannot be hidden. This "gets to the root" of the general perception of the Media (print and Electronic) by the public today, right out of the words from the quoted Press Club remarks to the effect of "everybody in the room knows we do not print the truth, and if we were to print the truth we would be out looking for jobs in any other but the news publishing business", and while I have no doubt whatsoever that you (Brian) and you're counterparts throughout the viewing day try to be as "balanced" as possible in your "presentation of information"

regardless, seemingly, of personal bias, I do also believe that you know exactly what the old black guy was saying, or trying to say, and you did yourself and us a disservice by making him out to be a "crack pot".

But I'm still gonna watch your show.

Later,



Mesa, AZ 85203-6620

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