

April 28, 1994

Terry Murphy
Vice-President Programming
C-SPAN
400 North Capitol NW / Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Thank you and the C-SPAN staff for the superb unedited news each day that C-SPAN provides. It is the only way I know I am getting the truth. Your station is like water to a parched plant. C-SPAN is the Station of Choice for me over all the major networks, even CNN.

However, I cannot not communicate my outrage at the morally bankrupt commentary of Mr. Jules Witcover (sp) done Tuesday evening April 26 during the solemn transport of President Nixon's body at Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh New York, while Mr. Nixon's grieving family was on camera.

Thank God I have a mute button on my remote so from time to time I could wipe out Mr. Witcover's arrogant voice as he appointed himself the judge of Mr. Nixon's life. Mr. Witcover's self-indulgent and totally inappropriate remarks were a disgrace -- not only to the American people but mostly, I am sorry to say, to C-SPAN.

I thought your station had more decency than to allow a person (who calls himself a "journalist" Ha!) to smear his dysfunction all over the television screen during a national mourning event of our nation's fallen leader, a fellow human being, whose dead body lay in a casket wrapped in an American flag before our eyes.

And then C-SPAN compounded the error by airing the piece **again** later that evening **without blocking-out** Mr. Witcover's remarks.

You cannot stop a fly-weight like Mr. Witcover from walking into your studios, or speaking on the air if you invited him to speak with the belief that he would be professional. **But you can stop him from continuing.**

It is beyond our comprehension why you didn't just pull Mr. Witcover off the air. What. You were afraid of embarrassing him? So you protected one individual at the expense of 20 million individuals.

Or perhaps it was that your office did not think something was

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wrong with Mr. Witcover's attitude and commentary. If so,
we respectfully suggest that your Decency Meter needs calibrating.

Please. Keep it clean and simple. Otherwise C-SPAN will
become like all the other stations that editorialize the news and
call it reporting.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] / New York

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cc: Federal Communications Commission