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September 15, 1991

Program Director
C-SPAN
Suite 650
400 N. Capitol
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sir:

I really enjoy C-SPAN's coverage of most of the programs that are offered. It is very refreshing to be able to look at events that are occurring and actually see them in progress rather than rely on someone's reporting of what he or she thought or felt was being presented.

I do have one suggestion for your call-in discussion programs. I would prefer that the panelists be authorities on the issues being discussed. Panels consisting of reporters are both misleading and provide a disservice to your viewers. In spite of what I was taught in journalism in college, today's reporters fail to provide objective reporting of facts and instead tend to place their personal bias on their "reporting" of the facts. You and I both know that objective reporting does not allow for personal views and prejudices.

An excellent example was the call-in program with David Savage, Michael Kranish and Mara Liasson where one of your callers indicated that the President was responsible for the tax problems we face today. All reporters should know that taxes are enacted by the legislative branches of our government. Unfortunately, your "authorities" failed to correct the caller and even suggested that it was the President's fault. Any "authority" on the subject would have corrected the caller.

Unfortunately, the other statements and observations made by your guests during the program reflected their views and opinions instead of factual reporting. Since they are not authorities on the subjects under discussion, it is not surprising that their participation was of little value.

I would have preferred a panel consisting of law professors, judges and lawyers. Hopefully, from both sides of the liberal/conservative persuasion.

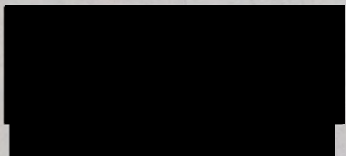
For instance, C-SPAN recently featured a panel discussion on taxing that consisted of several economists with different views. Their discussions were very informative and provided valuable information to the viewer.

Mr. Lamb and most of the other hosts on these programs do and excellent job of being objective and do not attempt to be "experts" on the matter being discussed.

My congratulations to you for your selection of these individuals and to them for resisting the temptation to express their personal opinions about the subject matter.

Thanks for listening. As a concerned American, I believe that a better educated public will make for a better America. Your programming can and does play a major role in providing some of this education.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Lantana, Florida 33462