

[REDACTED]
MOYOCK, NC. 27958

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN ROUNDTABLE
400 N. Capital Street
Washington DC 20001

RE: Ideas I would like to hear discussed on Roundtable

Dear Mr. Lamb,

I cannot reasonably list enough specific superlatives to express my appreciation for ALL of C-Span programming, but especially Friday's Roundtable. I am merciless in requesting C-Span II coverage from my cable system, Multivision, Inc., and my re-dial button is nearly worn out trying to make it thru the AT&T cut-off. Therefore, I write comments which I sincerely would like C-Span facilitators to throw on the table to appropriately knowledgeable guests.

1. HEALTHCARE: If there is bi-partisan agreement that we NEED universal coverage, secure coverage, responsible participation, quality care, AND SIMPLIFICATION OF THE SYSTEM why are legislators so politically afraid to commit to the PRINCIPLES, accept them as foundational GIVENS of basic human rights for our citizens, and FOCUS on the most effective manner to accomplish them?

The principles are the most gigantic, far-reaching solution to solving a universal problem since Social Security. Thrift and sin taxes won't do the job. If America truly needs to address this problem (and it does), Americans need to be prepared to fund it universally, fairly, comprehensively with a special system as specific and individually designed as Social Security. Duplicating the SS system is not the only broad based alternative, but designing a system comparable in scope IS.

Getting all the Mickey Mouse haggling OUT of the discussion IS SIMPLIFICATION. If we NEED the solution, the PRIORITY EXISTS. The financing of it needs to follow the same principles. ie: universal, secure, responsible, quality, simplified accountability accomplished fairly. When faced with the necessity to go to war, politicians find means to meet the costs. Healthcare is every bit as imperative.

2. SIN TAXES: If taxing cigarettes, alcohol, firearms etc. is considered feasible on the basis of the cost of the expense it adds to the healthcare system, then,
 - a. coronary costs would indicate we should tax all cholesterol contributors...animal and dairy industries, all obese citizens 30% overweight, all sodium content according to % of product etc.
 - b. cancer related costs should be supported by high taxation of any known carcinogen (petrochemical

industry, agriculture and food processing industry)
high federal tax on every EPA pollution violation,
tax every power transmission line, etc.

- c. accidental emergency care should be supported by outrageous taxes on each speeding ticket, DWI, and vehicle operator misdemeanor or felony conviction involving injury, any injury resulting from abuse, neglect, personal violence, etc.
- d. inflation of medical costs caused by malpractice awards should be taxed against the award and its litigators.
- e. all marriages licences issued to genetically incompatible couples should be taxed to cover the costs of diabetes, high B/P, Alzheimer's, sickle cell anemia, etc.

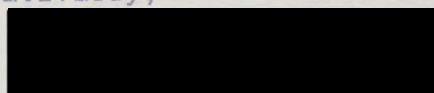
Using this fallacious approach we get to universal cost sharing in a roundabout way that would make China look like a proponent of human rights. Should all of this taxation be successful in eliminating the self-induced hazards of health, the tax-base is lost.

- 3. CONGRESSIONAL CREDITABILITY: I watch in wonder at all the political hoops legislators are jumping through to lift their images higher than auto mechanics, media correspondents, and lawyers, and along comes Fazio and his olives to make them laughing stock all over again. Incredible! When will they "get it" that "pork" is politically incorrect? "Poor George, he got stuck with a silver foot in his mouth. You can't put lipstick on a pig ...etc. etc."
- 4. NAFTA: Will the proponents ever get around to specifically presenting the merits of their position instead of attacking and defending ad nauseum? Before it reaches the floors for a vote, maybe?

I do not care that they "think" it will create hi-tech jobs, or the "dislocation" will be temporary, or Mexico's burgeoning economy will overwhelm us with orders for stoves, refrigerators, and computers. I want to know which industries, which jobs, where. I want to know "re-trained to do what?" and I'd like to know exactly how many homes per population in Mexico have running water, inside plumbing, and electrical outlets.

- 5. C-SPAN'S SCHOOLBUS: The best idea since sliced bread! I am VERY INTERESTED in following its travels, successes, problems, impact. After the newness wears off....or perhaps the program expands... Aim to hit every middle and high school in the country. An educated electorate IS THE ONLY WAY DEMOCRACY WORKS!

Gratefully,



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