

Tampa, Florida
12/12/91-3/16/92

Brian Lamb
400 N. Capitol St. N.W., Suite 650
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Dear Mr. Lamb,

The highlight of a recent subscription to cable television has been my discovery of C-Span — especially programs hosted by you. Your programs make me feel so alive — I think because of the guests you invite to spend some time with you— and, more importantly, what your guests become as they sit with you, respond to your insightful questions, and the resultant informative, alive, warm exchanges that result.

A notable exception to that enjoyment was the series of programs devoted to the current problems in education. The "aliveness" to which I've grown accustomed and enjoyed so thoroughly was entirely missing. That puzzled me greatly because I come from a life-long commitment to education, having been a music teacher until "retiring" four years ago, and still get very excited when I see or read evidence of a situation in which children are "being turned on" to the joy of learning. An example that comes to mind is Richard Feynman's autobiographical account of various incidents in his life. Finally I concluded that your questions were aborted much of the time by stereotypical responses — by vested interests. It's "got to be" almost impossible for people in the field to sit there, aware of fact that they are being heard by the whole nation, and be as honest about their feelings/opinions/realizations as is needed to communicate what will truly be helpful/growthful/vitalizing/conducive to change. To have the courage/confidence/integrity to risk sharing the system's weaknesses — as well as the strengths — in that setting is calling upon a huge amount of trust/understanding on the part of the listener.

**I realized a couple mornings ago that
what I would like to see
is for you to sit down with a group of persons of your choosing—
persons who are outstanding in their field—
whatever that field might be,
who are beautiful and alive as "persons" — and have ideas —

and have a conversation with them about
what was it that made them what they are,
and what the implications might be for education in the U.S.**

Bottom line — I don't care what the topic of the program is. I just love to "sit in on" conversations between you and your guests who have ideas.

THANK YOU!!

Tampa, Florida 33617



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