

October 5, 1996

C-Span Viewer Services
400 North Capitol St., NW
Suite 650
Washington, DC 20001

Dear C-Span:

I watched one of your programs rebroadcast Saturday morning in the Boston area on October 12, 1996. Your guest was Susan Crabtree of "Insight" magazine. I believe it was a "Washington Journal" show.

A caller brought up Republican campaign ads that reflected "racial insensitivity." Susan agreed with the caller.

Why is it that militia people are portrayed as undesirable (which they probably are) when they are predominantly, if not exclusively, white? Why isn't this "racial insensitivity?" Clinton made some derogatory remarks about "right wing extremists", who are predominantly white, and the effect of their hate speech right after the Oklahoma City bombing. This, apparently, is fine. No bias or hate speech there but why isn't this a display of "racial insensitivity?"

If someone or some organization talks about convicted criminals like Willie Horton, that is hate speech and shows "racial insensitivity." just because he, and others like him, happen to be black.

Why is it proper and/or acceptable to criticize groups which are predominantly white, like the militia groups or the Christian Coalition, but not blacks? The militia groups may get involved in illegal activities, which may make them fair game. The Christian Coalition's values and politics are what raise the rancor of its critics. Are blacks beyond criticism? Why is it not appropriate to criticize blacks, individually or as a particular group (like Willie Horton, the Black Panthers or the L.A. rioters who burned, robbed stores and killed white people who were caught in the area.) when they are involved in criminal activities and in the case of Willie Horton, a convicted felon? The L.A. rioters were extremely sensitive people. One should tolerate and/or

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forgive their behavior when they run amuck. For not to do so exhibits extreme insensitivity.

It would appear that if one is not a member of a minority group, it is fine to criticize their values, politics and activities. No bias or bigotry there. No "insensitivity" there. However, for God's sake, do not criticize a member of a minority group. To do so exhibits "extreme" bigotry and insensitivity. What rot. I guess that's where they get "extremist" from. When blacks or liberals criticize white conservatives, why isn't that "extremism?" Why isn't that "insensitive?"

I guess the government attack upon a religious community (whites) in Texas and the government attack upon Randy and his family (whites) while they were in their own home, shooting his wife dead while holding their young child, were not the responses of "extremists." Of course, these acts were not "insensitive" because they were acts against "white right wing radicals" who, apparently, are fair game. Nothing insensitive about shooting right wing radicals, including women and children.

This is another example of media bias, which is always denied. Susan Crabtree may not be a liberal. I do not know. However, she does reflect the "politically correct" crowd in her comments. This makes her biased, which I am sure she would deny. However, if one has a strong preferred position, that is a bias. In this case, her bias is for reflecting a "politically correct" interpretation and/or criticism of events.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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