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C-Span
400 N. Capitol Street #650 N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Sir:

As so many of your callers say, "I am a regular watcher of C-Span," but I can't say I am enjoying it. My reasons are as follows:

1. Your choice of panel members for call-in shows, especially members of the media --

I feel that you do not balance right-wing Republican participants with strong Democrats, or with leftwing equivalents. Most of your Democratic panel members are at best moderates, if not conservatives. You also provoke or overlook gratuitous attacks on President Clinton, with no attempt to answer or correct obviously political slanting. Were you equally willing to have Reagan and Bush bashers on C-Span?

2. Following from #1, your slanted reporting and anti-Clinton tone is so out-of-balance that even the bare facts of the budget were allowed to be fudged by partisan carping. How could a majority of the people believe so wrongly that the new tax burden would be borne by the middle-class, except that "neutral" reporters, such as yours, along with PBS and the networks, never told them the truth?
3. Aside from not being able to get through on the telephone to make these points, we have to listen to callers who are 'way out of proportion from the South, and therefore usually far-right conservatives, giving a slanted impression of the public's views. You spend hours listening and broadcasting their obviously pre-fab statements (have you ever heard of Rush Limbaugh's drives?) without ever seeing to it that they are answered or, in the case of obvious falsehoods, corrected. What service, except therapy for disturbed people, are you providing at taxpayers' expense, if such programming doesn't leave time for accurate news?
4. You have not faced up to the extent the media have been intimidated by the right wing ever since

Spiro Agnew's attacks ("hattering nabobs. . .?")
Why is this kept so quiet? And since the media are
so important to you, when are you planning to have
Professor Noam Chomsky -- or his film "Manufactured
Consent" -- on C-Span? Doesn't C-Span serve ALL of
the public? Doesn't the intimidation by the right

wing explain how Reagan and Bush got away with
everything but murder, the "teflon presidency"?
Does C-Span believe in the search for truth as the
primary job of the media?



Roselle, IL
60172

P.S.: I AM SENDING A COPY
OF THIS TO JEFF ELLER,
AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

P.P.S.: DO WE NOT HAVE TO
PUT UP WITH ENOUGH
RIGHT WING TALK SHOWS
(AND HOSTS) -- DOES C-SPAN
HAVE TO ADD TO THE MISERY?