

THREE RIVERS, CALIFORNIA 93271-9725

November 25, 1996

Mr. Brian Lamb, President
C-SPAN
400 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, Suite 650
Washington, D.C.
20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

This morning you indicated that you had received little comment about your continued division of telephone calls to Democrats, Republicans and Others. I am one of the Others and would like to make a polite comment.

When I first registered to vote in 1945, I did not align myself with any political party, for I did not then know enough about their specific party ideology. Since that time, as I learned more, I concluded that none were sufficiently consistent with my personal beliefs that I could join them. As a result, for over fifty years I have remained a nonpartisan voter, backing the individuals of my choice, despite party affiliation.

This decision has resulted, as the Primaries have become more Party specific, in my disenfranchisement. Perhaps this deprivation of my rights has ended as the voters in the State of California have voted for and "open Primary." Over the years, I have watched the legal end of segregation of the racial minorities with true approval. It is with sadness, however, to see a new type of segregation appear with the segregated culture centers on college campuses and even in many cities. We have traded one type of segregation for another and no longer do we say we are Americans, but instead claim to be hyphenated Americans. This is not what we fought and died for on the many world wide battlefields of the past.

Regret is too weak a word to express my feelings when you maintained the segregation of political preference for the callers after November Election. It seemed that you, in the interest of maintaining a neutral position have not unlike the socially correct, actually caused a segregation of your callers. You believe that there were those who took advantage of the telephone call in programs and some people complained. Instead of complaining, they should urge other like minded to call. We are all Americans and should not be isolated into separate national and political groupings.

J. W. J.
Spiller

Each morning I awake in time to listen to and view the *Washington Journal*. It is part of my daily routine. Though some of your guests annoy me greatly, I still recognize that they have the right to express their beliefs just as much as I do. And perhaps you should cut off the rude and ill-mannered sooner. We the listeners are also insulted by their behavior.

Before I close, I wish to voice a heartfelt thank you to you and your staff for the immense contribution you have made in informing the American Public about national affairs. I have learned more about our government while listening to C-SPAN then I ever did during eighteen years of formal education and reading an uncounted number of weekly magazines.

Thank you.

