

March 19, 1999

[REDACTED]
Los Angeles, CA 90025
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Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN
400 N. Capital Street NW #650
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

He's back. By he, I mean me, your least favorite viewer and correspondent. And he's back with more complaints (but underlying these complaints, you must remember, is the fact that I love the program and would sorely miss it if anything untoward should occur.

There is a list of persons I find beneath contempt, and do not qualify for the honor of appearing on your program. In no particular order (and bear in mind that I suffer from failing memory, especially names, and vice president like spelling) I submit the following:

Ollie North
Gordon Liddy
David Duke
Larry Nichols
Matt Drudge
Larry _____ (of Judicial Watch infamy)

So this morning you picked Matt Drudge to feature in a one and one half hour segment hosted by you on the day you and the media were celebrating the 20th anniversary of C-SPAN. By doing this you extended him credibility, status and dignified his schtick. One of the rare viewers/callers who had the temerity to comment in a negative manner pointed out practically the only words he used were **I and me**. The man lacks integrity and certainly humility (and he certainly has much about which to be humble.) He attacks anyone who criticizes him, except when it is said that he is no journalist. That he seems to wear as a badge of honor. In the sense of the I/me subject of every sentence he utters, he reminds me very much of the Republican Chairman of the Appropriations Committee (what's his name, Kusick, or something like that) who also has the chutzpa to run for President of the United States. He

Mr. Brian Lamb
March 19, 1999
Page Two

did this, he saved that, he successfully ran another (and if I hear again that his father is a postman, that his is a hard hat family, and some of his other pet cliches, I think I will throw up, and on him!) Why do they each do this. I have a theory. When you are an underdog and out of the running, and when no one will say a kind word about you, certain people with a hungry ego (not a big ego, mind you, but an empty one) need to get attention, even if it means making a fool of one's self. I think that is what happens to both of them (maybe to me, too.)

I also have a theory on why he is popular with a certain crowd. It is similar to the election as Governor of Jesse, "The Body" Ventura. I remember how a fraternity used to put up a dog or mouse or horse (I went to USC) as a candidate for president of the student body or class president. Then they would come out in droves to vote him or it in. I think that is what happened with The Gov. I believe the post election stats confirmed that college age voters cast ballots in unprecedented numbers. In the same way they like this nut, with his hat, his unreliable gossip, and all. To him it doesn't matter that some publication made some outrageous claim or statement. He will repeat it, and then hide behind the cloak that it was not he who said it; he was only reporting that they said it. But you know all this. I don't have to explain it to you.

I don't say they should be censored. Please, I am close to a First Amendment absolutist. I backed the ACLU when they defended that Nazi march in that Chicago suburb where many holocaust survivors lived. They can speak, and so can Drudge. But that doesn't mean you should put him up there on the same chair, and at the same table, wearing the same ear piece and mike, where fine reporters, politicians, scholars, historians, authors and the like appear. After all, you have editorial prerogatives. You have the right to decide who will and who won't appear on Washington Journal, and that is not censorship. Now Deborah Mathis, there was a real human being, beautiful inside and out. Mr. Lamb, how could you and why would you?

Sincerely,

