

LA CROSSE WI  
54601

Greetings To All Of You Who Make C-Span Possible:

I watch C-Span because it satisfies my "hidden hunger" for fine quality, innovative programming. Instead of watching the soap opera, "Capitol", with its imaginary Congressmen, I am seeing the real thing via C-Span, as it televises the House proceedings and committee meetings.

At times, I am dismayed by petty partisan bickering; more often, I am pleased with the stimulating debate and championship of a cause. On the whole, my opinion of Congress has become more favorable since watching C-Span. This November, when the election results come in, it will be interesting to see how many of my favorites are returned to Congress. After watching them for several years, I feel that I know most of the members and how they stand on important issues. I must admit, I will be hoping that some of them do not return. I feel that I will be a more intelligent voter this year because of C-Span and its excellent programming. I do not understand how anyone could watch your channel on a regular basis without increased social consciousness.

I believe that C-Span is a unifying force in our country. Many of us are inclined to read papers and magazines which reflect our viewpoint. Persons from all over the nation call C-Span and express their views with someone who may feel differently about the topic under discussion. I don't know how many minds are changed, probably, very few, but I do think it is healthy to engage in conversation with someone who offers us a fresh perspective. My only regret is that some persons in the lower economic brackets may not be able to participate in the process because of the costs of calling-in and cable installations.

Interruptions on C-Span for commercials and announcements are minimal and innocuous. Unlike other channels where guests are rudely interrupted, your moderators are gracious, good listeners, and exhibit terrific self-control in keeping their personal opinions and political preferences to themselves.

Here are some other reasons why I like C-Span: The background music is restful and non-intrusive. The beautiful camera shots of Washington landmarks acquaint us with our Capitol. Your visits to Chicago, Miami, New Hampshire, and

Iowa, and your interviews with local personalities were highlights of your 1984 scheduling. I've, also, enjoyed your visits to the various newspaper offices and your presentation last year of a day in the life of a Congressman. I'm thankful that programs are repeated as it is, obviously, impossible to watch for twenty-four hours a day.

I feel very fortunate, indeed, that C-Span provides a gourmet diet for an old "news-junkie" like me.

Gratefully,

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