

May 7, 1994

Brian Lamb, C-Span,

Sir, yesterday May 6 while watching C-Span, I heard a woman caller chastise you for not featuring more Asiatic journalists and other minorities on your discussion panels about the news.

I presume you don't allow such "bean-counters" to exert pressure that would degrade the quality of your panelists & the quality of the news discourse.

I didn't invent the word "bean-counters", as I first heard that term used by Pres. Clinton in 1993. He had already appointed Janet Reno because of a promise to have a female attorney general, but he had changed his mind on Loni Guinier for the negro Rights division of Justice Dept. in favor of a male. The female "bean-counters" or "quota-queens" raised heck.

In general, the journalists you have are superior on your roundtable. Yesterday you had Kwame Holman of MacNeill-Lehrer Report, who is colored, but I believe he was there because of his high-quality reporting & analysis, not because he is "black." So I don't "count beans."

I think people appearing on TV programs should meet a minimum standard of being photogenic as well as knowing what they are talking about. The only exception ^{on C-SPAN} to those minimum standards was a Jewish woman from the New York Times several months ago. She was homely & hard to look at. Also she swallowed her words in a peculiar way, which was distracting. She was a replica of Rep. Ron Wyden of Oregon in that respect, & merely proves that many ~~print~~ print journalists do best work on the printed page but should not be seen on the TV tube.

The weekly TV program, "Washington Week in Review," regularly yields to pressure of New York newspapers to show
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reporters who are token minorities on that panel. Even while Paul Duke was moderator, they had a black woman from a New York newspaper, whose initials were M.M., who had an ugly face & head & apparently none too bright. Thank God they replaced that panelist with a New York reporter who was both black & female (initials are G.I.), who was good looking & had interesting comments on the news.

Thank God Loni Guineer wasn't appointed to Justice Dept. With her sneaky smile & subversive agenda, she would have been a big danger to American democracy, & apparently this was brought to Pres. Clinton's attention.

The female "bean-counters" weren't sufficiently grateful when Pres. Clinton appointed Ruth Ginsburg to Supreme Court, although she filled 2 minority counts of being Jewish & female. The "bean-counters" still say women are 52% of American population. All minorities, who now represent the modern tribalism in America, clamor for a quota system which has already been found to be un-Constitutional.

Yesterday the new female Senator from Illinois gave a speech on C-Span coverage of the Senate. She pointed out that black people are 12% of American population but that black men on death row represent much higher ~~per~~ percentages of men in prison who are scheduled to "fry," as she put it. Although I voted for her in November, 1992, I was jolted to hear her favor a racial quota law concerning death-row executions. However, this doesn't cause any fright, because she is only one of 100 Senators, where most of them favor the death sentence, as I do, & all the Senators know that such a racial quota law on executions would be un-Constitutional.

Sincerely,

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