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Steve Sculley
Producer "Road to the White House"
C-SPAN

Dear Mr. Sculley:

I am one of many voters who was disenchanted with the media coverage of the 1988 Federal elections. It seemed the focus of many of the pieces was who was ahead, who was behind and then a couple of soundbites often prepared by campaigners' media specialist. However I recently read an article from the *Los Angeles Times* by Thomas B. Rosenstiel on how many of the major news organizations are going to make a concerted effort to focus on issues for the 1992 primaries and general election.

I had hoped to see the mainstream media follow through on this promise, but I am already somewhat disappointed. Specifically the mainstream media is ignoring the Democratic Presidential campaign of Larry Agran, former mayor of Irvine California. Many news programs and publications known for their devotion to issues have covered Larry Agran's campaign, a short list includes: the *MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour*, *Larry King Live*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Christian Science Monitor* and *The Baltimore Sun*. When news organizations devote time and space to a candidate's message they allow the viewer to decide whether the candidate is worthy. When a news organization's coverage consists entirely of "... a longshot with virtually no chance of winning" they take that choice away from the viewer. Even worse when a news organization ignores the candidate by outright omission ("The 6 presidential candidates...") it subverts the democratic process and is rightfully blamed for the current poor state of affairs in election campaigning.

People complain that politics offers them the same pseudo-choices year after year. The mainstream media chooses to cover only an elite group of congressmen, governors and media personalities. Please make a commitment to the democratic process and cover all candidates who have a sincere message for the American people, let them decide who has a chance.

Sincerely,
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