

JULY 9, 1993

Mr. Bruce Collins
C-Span Network
400 N. Capitol Street - Suite #650
Washington, D.C. 20001-1511

002594 JUL 13 1993

Dear Bruce:

In your interview about the article on David Gergen with the author, Maureen Orth of Vanity Fair, you asked her, "Where was the Liberal Media?" in response to a topic discussed.

The article enclosed from Liberal Opinion weekly magazine may answer your question. The last statement in it sums up the whole question about the Liberal media, i.e., "If the news media are liberal, why are they owned and sponsored by big corporations that spend millions of dollars to lobby against liberal measures in Washington?"

President Clinton's Media Coverage

In a news bite, Jack Nelson of the L.A. Times, said that in over 30 years of covering Washington, he felt that President Clinton has been BASHED more than any other president in history. I think this is true, because I don't recall any of these savage attacks on Presidents Reagan & Bush.

Bruce, on one of your morning shows you had a reporter from the Wall Street Journal and Wm. Greider, the author of "Who Will Tell the People?" Not a balanced panel since both of them were anti-Clinton.

I wish you would have Christopher Matthews on C-Span again. He certainly livened up the program he was on. This was a welcome change from the usual onslaught of Republicans appearing on C-Span.

In other words, let's have more people of liberal persuasion. Also enclosed is list of columnists that appear in Liberal Opinion. Maybe your organization should subscribe to this weekly paper for a different slant or point of view, plus a list of potential people for the morning shows.

A Regular Listener

Enc: Liberal Opinion Article
" " Reporter List

cc: Brian Lamb, C-Span ✓
Susan Swain, C-Span
Maureen Orth, Vanity Fair
350 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10017-3799

P.S. I'm looking forward to the arrival of Vanity Fair to read about David Gergen.

LIBERAL OPINION

VOL. 4 NO. 36 JUNE 21, 1993

Week

Cohen & Solomon

20 Questions About the 'Liberal Media'

One of the most familiar descriptions of the news media is that they are "liberal."

— If the news media are liberal, why does the national press corps keep telling President Clinton that it's bad to be liberal?

— If the news media are liberal, why did the latest Newsweek hail Clinton's "shift to the right" and prod him to show "the backbone" to stay there?

— If the news media are liberal, why do national dailies and news weeklies regularly laud those aspects of President Clinton's program that they see as "centrist" or "moderate," while questioning those seen as liberal?

— If the news media are liberal, why is it that liberals are apt to be denigrated as ideologues, but status quo centrists or "moderates" are presented as free of ideological baggage?

The myth of the liberal media flourishes to the extent that people don't ask pointed questions. Here are a few queries about current reporting:

— If the news media are liberal, why does recent "news" coverage claim that candidate Clinton was a centrist "in touch with the people," but President Clinton turned into a liberal "out of the mainstream"?

— If the news media are liberal, why did most outlets praise Clinton's selection of David Gergen, who advocated Reagan policies, while pillorying civil rights lawyer Lani Guinier?

— If the news media are liberal, why did they applaud conservative White House appointees like Lloyd Bentsen and Les Aspin, while challenging liberals like Donna Shalala, Johnetta Cole and Roberta Achtenberg?

It also helps to look back at history and ask questions:

— If the news media are liberal, why have Clinton's meager tax hikes on the wealthy been referred to as "soaking the rich" or "class warfare," but President Reagan's giveaways to the wealthy were euphemized as "tax reform"?

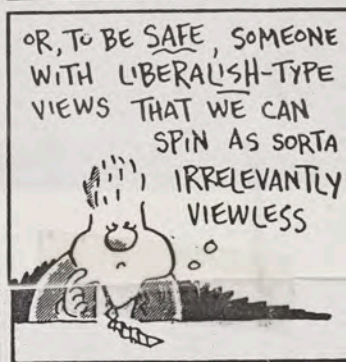
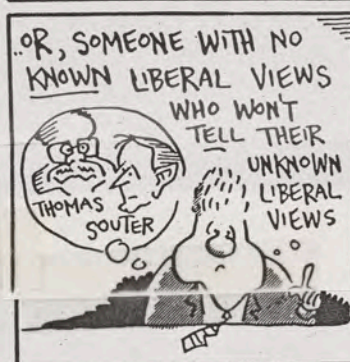
— If the news media are liberal, why have national outlets been far tougher in scrutinizing Democratic Presidents Carter and Clinton than Republicans Reagan and Bush?

— If the news media are liberal, why have they buried important facts, such as the shrinking of corporate income tax from 25 percent of federal revenue in the 1960s to only about 7 percent today?

— If the news media are liberal, why have they given short shrift to reform proposals — tax-financed national health insurance, federally supported child care, government jobs programs — that their own polls show are overwhelmingly popular with the public?

Pundits and commentators have gained increasing prominence in the media, often eclipsing the reporters:

— If the news media are liberal, why were the first and



only political pundits to appear on national TV every day of the week both conservatives: Patrick Buchanan and John McLaughlin? Was it their good looks?

— If the news media are liberal, why does the media spectrum typically extend from unabashed right-wingers to tepid centrists who go to great lengths — attacking progressive ideas and individuals — to prove they're "not left-wing"? Why do pundit debates on national TV have Wall Street Journal reporters representing "the left"?

— If the news media are liberal, why are TV pundit programs — even on "public television" — sponsored by conservative businesses like General Electric, AT&T and Archer Daniels Midland?

— If the news media are liberal, why was Rush Limbaugh the first host in the history of American television to be allowed to use his national politics show to campaign day after day for a presidential candidate?

— If the news media are liberal, why does Limbaugh control the radio airwaves for hours per day on 600 radio stations — but Jim Hightower, the brilliant Texas populist,

has trouble getting his commentaries heard on radio even a few minutes per day?

— If the news media are liberal, why do right-wing hosts usually dominate talk radio — even in liberal cities?

— If the news media are liberal, why is Patrick Buchanan about to launch a new national radio talk show every weekday to go with his syndicated column and regular TV slots? And why is it that G. Gordon Liddy's talk show is now on 60 radio stations, that Morton Downey Jr. is returning to TV and that even David Duke has a new radio talk show?

— If the news media are liberal, why are there dozens of widely syndicated columnists who champion corporate interests, but few who champion consumer or labor rights?

In analyzing the bias of any institution, it helps to look at who owns it. Which leads to a final question:

— If the news media are liberal, why are they owned and sponsored by big corporations that spend millions of dollars to lobby against liberal measures in Washington?

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THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

SENSIBLE AMERICANS AGREE—"MANAGED COMPETITION" IS THE ONLY WAY TO REFORM OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM...



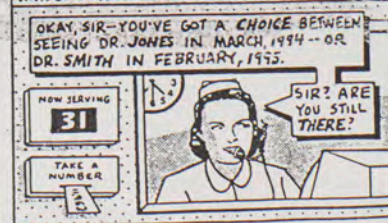
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The
LIBERAL
viewpoint

LIBERAL OPINION

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LIBERAL OPINION WEEK reprints current syndicated editorial commentary by outstanding columnists selected for their liberal perspective and wide appeal. It also features the views of nationally-acclaimed newspaper cartoonists.

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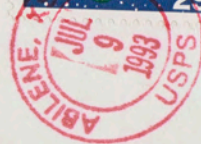
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Mr. Brian Lamb
C-Span Network
400 N. Capitol Street - Suite #650
Washington, D.C. 20001-1511

