

I watch C-Span because it gives me a constructive, informative and educational view of political and public affair views that I cannot find in the daily newspaper, weekly magazines and most electronic media. Until I discovered the C-Span station, I had never voted in an election. I believed that a person did not have a right to condemn nor condone a candidate or representative if they did not vote, however, did not think that one should just vote without investigating not only the candidates but the issues and answers. When decisions were made about the college PELL grants, the GI bill benefits, civil service pay raises, adding social security and Medicare to the civil service out take, then I decided that I wanted to know more. C-Span makes me feel a part of the United States, whether it be the debates of presidential candidates or simply listening to the views and arguments of the House of Representatives.

While listening to the Representatives and speakers I become aware of their beliefs, their attitudes and become more open-minded and opinionated myself, forming conclusions of my own. It helps me to take the guess work when voting or when wondering about issues. I feel as though I am sitting in one of the seats in the auditorium, or room where the speaker is speaking. Not only can I better understand the issues and problems of the U. S. and other nations, but I can relate and carry on a conversation with ease with others that are knowledgeable in political science and public affairs. I now find it easy to question and state opinions in my college classes relating to some of the subjects discussed on C-Span. It broadens my knowledge immensely. And that in return, gives me a sense of fulfillment in my self and a sense of pride.

For no other reason I would not have my HBO and cable removed because of this one very important program. No where have I been able to gain such an insight to the world around me.

I enjoy the public affairs aspect of the program because I have been involved in public affairs myself over the past ten years as a Navy Journalist and then reservist.

Sometimes I will be sitting beginning to watch some of the prime time shows and they become so ridiculously "silly" that I turn them to such programs as C-Span.

When I saw the contest concerning C-Span, I became very excited because I would love to return to Washington, D. C. (I have been once before) to enjoy walking through the halls of history and government where our laws are made, where our representatives and politicians make their decisions. I am thoroughly and genuinely interested in C-Span and what goes on in our country and in the world around us. C-Span assists me in keeping informed and confident in understanding that world.



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