

Washington Journal  
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Dear C-SPAN:

I watched Washington Journal on Friday, March 12. I was very encouraged by your up and coming programs on presidents. But I hope those programs include the bad as well as the good concerning our 41 presidents. I was discouraged when an African American called your show and made remarks concerning President Reagan's last years in office. The issues he brought up weren't properly addressed by Mr Lamb nor his guest.

I hope that this isn't how your 41 weeks of programming will be like. I'm not a historian, but I read history and understand history. If your series on presidents go as it should, I'm sure it will upset a lot of people. Because there is so much about our former and present president that is known

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but is thought to be taboo by many people, (mainly historians). And the truth is something children aren't being taught! The truth as we know it isn't about leaving out important facts about history. This is the main reason why our public schools are in their present condition. President Washington sided with the British after the Revolutionary War. This is odd because the British were our enemies. And had not the French come to our aid there is no telling what this country would be like.

Because of the French Military aid we signed two treaties of alliance with France in 1778. And prior to breaking a treaty both parties should agree to do so. When it comes to foreign policies our first few presidents did a poor job.

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And as the old saying goes, "fool me once, shame on you, fool me twice, shame on me." The big problem was with our first three presidents who couldn't or wouldn't cut the umbilical cord with Britain. As though the Revolutionary War wasn't enough there was the War of 1812 in which Britain burned the White House to the ground. Britain also routinely seized American ships. One of the least talked about seizing was <sup>the</sup> brig Creole.

The Creole Case of 1841 put the U.S. against Britain again. The United States was morally wrong. The British Government and Rep Joshua Reed Giddings' resolutions served justice well. Rep. Giddings was censored for his resolution and he resigned! He was later reelected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Now let's look at President Jefferson: He had a better

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Grasp of foreign policy than Washington. But as we now know despite his great accomplishments he led a double life. Historians have discounted his suspected relationship with Sally Hemings. Even though DNA results show that there's an overwhelming possibility that he had had a forbidden sexual relationship with, some historians and non-historians still discount that this could have or did happen. This thinking defies common sense for several reasons.

One, it is written that Jefferson's wife said on her dying bed that she didn't want him to remarry. Secondly, Sally Hemings was Thomas Jefferson's sister in law. Sally Hemings had more in common genetically with Mrs Jefferson than almost anyone. So she probably looked and acted a lot like Mrs Jefferson.

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This probably wasn't a voluntary sexual affair because of the huge disparity of power between the two. It is conceivable, and should not be dismissed as an impossibility when proof to the contrary is available. Next, is the situation with President Warren Gamaliel Harding. I watched, I believe was Washington Journal about a month or so ago. An African American caller asked your guest to expound on the pre-election <sup>rumors</sup> ~~rumors~~ concerning Mr. Harding. Some of his critics said that he had African American lineage.

And your historian guest and Mr Lamb talked around the issue. Your guest in particular layed out his self-fulfilling prophecy. He said that "Mr Harding was elected, so the rumors weren't true. This is intellectually dishonest. And it shows that anti-truth seeking historian

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would rather change history than write or speak the truth about it. We all know that "you can't judge a book by its cover". And if he had black lineage, African Americans who were involved knew about it. Because of the taboo nature of our society not everyone wanted to believe it. So that could have been the reason why he was elected. It shows if an afro-american has first hand knowledge it will still be dismissed. I watch a lot of C-SPAN and I appreciate the services you provide. Without C-SPAN my life wouldn't be the same. I only wish more Americans (USA) people would watch or listen to your show.

One thing that I must leave you with is this: C SPAN has a very difficult job. Because you have a lot of hate filled callers.

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Many of these calls are about race. Only radio shock jockeys seem to spew out this much venom publicly. So C-SPAN is a medium for free speech, but also unadulterated hate. One of your callers referred to Haiti as "that stinky hell hole". But with his bigoted beliefs some facts were totally ignored. The Residuals of the Haitian Revolution with France was the largest acquisition of land in U.S. history (Louisiana Purchase).

So rather the U.S. want to admit or not, Haiti and its former leader Toussaint L'Ouverture had a lot to do with shaping United States history. Please respond.

Sincerely

