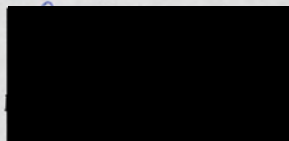


To Whom It May It Concern: 3/27/93

Please give this letter to Mr. Lamb and don't throw it in the trashcan or something. I spent a lot of time writing it and want him to read it.

I'm sorry it ended up being so long.

Thanks,



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March 27, 1993

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C-SPAN

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lamb,

A while back a caller was raking you over the coals for not being fair because you didn't have all sides represented on C-SPAN. I happened to be next on the line and said he obviously didn't watch C-SPAN much if he thought that. C-SPAN's the fairest in the media. (It's not easy to come up with spontaneous lines like that, but I'm improving. I'm usually tongue tied if I don't have my notes written down and my stomach turns upside down even after 2 years of this, knowing I'm speaking to millions of people)

I'm sure your viewership is up these last couple years, because I never miss a chance to plug C-SPAN. Before the election I told Tom Schneider, for instance, that I couldn't stand watching all these talking heads telling me how I should think and what I should think about what I heard in a speech and that I only watched speeches on C-SPAN because they trust me to make my own decisions. After that every time he could, Tom said he got his information from C-SPAN for the same reason. I hope you get my drift.

I'm sure you get sick of hearing it, but my point is I know you try to be fair. But I think you have a misguided notion, and that is the 30 day limit for calls. I phone alot of call-in shows. (You'd be surprised how good I've gotten at this since my first call to a call in show which I made to you on a Sunday in January when the Gulf War had just started. When I mixed up my lines, you helped me ease thru the call or I might have never made another one. And an arm chair activist was born! I was the first caller for, instance to really blast Zoe Baird's nomination, for reasons which weren't apparent to anyone but me at the time.) I don't want to sound cocky, but I've worked so hard on my calls I've practically made it an art form, though my family gets mad at me some time for it.

None of the shows where we have to pay for the calls ourselves, which is most of them, limit them, except they prefer one call per host. After all it's our money. With your policy you're limiting our free speech, maybe because our congressmen make you is all I can deduce. I wouldn't put it past them! It just doesn't seem like something you would be for.

It has been virtually impossible to get thru since a few months before the election. Now that I can get thru again, with my new Sony phone, I try to disguise my voice and say I'm from different places in Missouri, but usually I say I'm from St. Louis because I love St. Louis and want people to know I'm from here.

When you were on KMOX radio you said something about how someone from Gephardt's staff can call on your private line and get thru ahead of the rest of us. (They do this on KMOX radio if his feelers hear stuff they don't like that we're saying)

Anyway, on your a.m. call-in show on either Tues. 3/23 or Thurs. 3/25, I can't remember which one, you weren't the host, I was talking about how glad I was that Clinton was finally backing Yeltsin, but it was kind of ironic since he was pushing this Socialist Stimulus pkg. at the same time. As angry as I was at the next caller, I was kind of flattered that he felt he needed to keep tabs on me.

Right after me, and I'm sure it wasn't coincidental, the next caller's a man from St. Louis and I'd swear he works for Tricky Dick Gephardt and starts really ripping into me about my lying and saying how I lie about where I'm from all the time, that I got my info about the fish atlases from Rush Limbaugh (As a matter of fact I watched Rush Limbaugh's show that night and he stole a line from ^{me} that I said on C-SPAN that morning, I don't care, I can't prove it, but I know it, that's all that counts) when I got the info about the fish atlases from watching the debate on C-SPAN, said this was my third weekly call, which wasn't true, I only got thru once last week. He probably got thru more than me, not to mention his cohorts. And he blasted me for having no values.

Bullshit, he wouldn't know values if it hit him in the face. I don't consider it immoral or illegal to lie to get my free speech, but very American. I wanted to turn the t.v. off as he raked me over the coals, it was very embarrassing, but I thought I should face the music. I felt like I got ran over by a mack truck. Except for a couple nice callers who backed me up, I would have felt even worse. But that was the other day, now I just feel like que, sera, sera.

You should reward the perserverent who hit the old redial button 1,000's of times. Don't discourage the regular, individual concerned citizens. You only encourage the organized groups out there with the electronic busy busters who back each other up with this 30 day limit stuff.

I'm sure with this policy you're encouraging the old regular callers not to call in. Since about a month before the election I could tell something was different, because I've called pretty regularly since Jan. 1991. I believe organized groups have the type of computer I've seen at a ATT store which sell for about \$5,000 a piece and will automatically keep redialing till they get thru. Most average individual citizens can't afford this. Different people in these groups can call in and back each other up and a 30 day policy will not affect them. Individual citizens are out numbered. When you tell people to not call in for 30 days, you encourage the one with electronic busy busters and discourage regular people.

But most importantly, by hearing callers on a regular basis, listeners develop a trust of the callers by getting to know them. I actually learn more from regular callers locally than I do from the biased media. Like Anthony Robbins, author of Awaken the Giant Within, says go to the experts for knowledge, it saves alot of time. You can tell some callers are far more informed from a variety of sources than the average citizen. I believe people in the St. Louis are trust things I say on call in shows. I always mention things I've seen on C-SPAN. I take notes and encourage them to watch C-SPAN and get it from the horses mouth, rather than the biased media.

As I told you on a call last fall, my big mission is term limits. I was first inspired by a show on your station around the time of the war. A Phil Stern was on and he really moved me. I realized where all problems came from and knew congressmen weren't going to bite the hand that feeds them. I knew we needed term limits, there's no shortage of good people to take their place. I started my calls before George Will wrote his great book.

As I told you in this call, going out and getting signatures for term limits was the first thing I've really done like that. The fact that 14 states voted for term limits by 3 to 1 margins in one foul swoop last November was no accident, as I've been working the phones morning, noon, and late at night after the family was in bed for 2 years. It wasn't easy. I learned soon, if you say you want to talk about term limits, you never get on. I had to make up other subjects and stall atleast 7 seconds so I wouldn't get cut off by the host or operator. I'm usually not a liar, but I don't take no for an answer when it comes to my free speech. I can tell you honestly, C-SPAN is the only place I can say I want to talk about term limits and not be afraid I will not get on. Please change your mind on the 30 day limit. It sounds like something the congressmen or media would come up with, not you.

It was nice talking to you on Bob Hardy's show on KMOX radio

a few weeks back. If I'm not working, I usually talk on Mr. Hardy's Show once a day. I don't know how well you know him, but St. Louisans have been very lucky for a long time to have such a knowledgeable, fair media person. He's probably the reason we have an equal number of Democrats, Republicans, and Independent voters. We sure wouldn't be that way if we only got our info from probably the most liberal biased paper in the country, the Post Dispatch. I'm sure Mr. Hardy was influenced by the late Bob Hyland, who started call in shows here in the early 60's. I've been making calls for only a couple years, but alot of St. Louisans have been doing this longer than anyone in the country. I really admired Mr. Hyland for starting this thing and bringing Dr. Tom Dooley to everyone's attention, my childhood hero since I was around 10.

You know the media keep complaining callers don't ask good follow up questions. Maybe that's because they don't get enough practice. If they did, if you ever quit having this 30 day policy, they would probably ask better questions than the media people that schmooze with the politicians.

In 2 years, I have not heard one single person complain that there was no limit on calls. Most people love the fact that ^{the} only restriction is they only get 1 call per show host. So think about it, would you?

When you said you were going to have open lines a couple weeks ago, I thought you meant it. That's the way all call-in shows work. On an open line show you can talk about anything you want (except term limits) But you only want to talk about Health Care Reform, which is fine. But why don't you think about having more really open call-in shows. That would be nice.

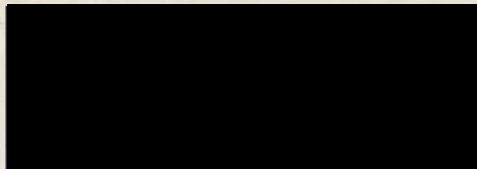
All my life I kept wondering why God put me on the planet, just going from one day to another without accomplishing anything really worth putting me here for. I finally figured it out a couple years ago, and nothing has given me more joy than making these calls. I could die tomorrow and feel satisfied. I know you probably feel this way from starting C-SPAN. You really opened up the window for a country that has always been the world's role model for democracy. Although, it seems like we're going to hell in a hand basket right now, we've done some things that might just prevent that.

Just Remember, if George Washington, Abe Lincoln or Harry Truman thought this country that we love so much, were going to hell in a hand basket, would they obey the 30 day limit on calls on the single most important wave length of mass communications, and most respected, that we have in this country? NOT. When I was little my Dad always told ^{me} a person can really make a big difference in this world, it's always been in the back of my head.

Thanks.

[REDACTED] Part of a family of 4 gross \$34,000.00
[REDACTED] St. Louis, MO 63123 [REDACTED] (OVER)

P.S. Again, I'm sorry the letter ended up being so long and rambling. But even though I really don't know anything about you, I do feel like I know the kind of person you are from all our calls. Bye. Bye.



St. Louis, Mo.
63123



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C-SPAN

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