



Pepperell, MA 01463

April 13, 1998

Ms. Connie Brod

C-SPAN

400 N. Capital Street, # 650

Washington, DC 20001

O.W)

Dear Ms. Brod,

I have been a loyal and very appreciative viewer of C-SPAN since 1984. In 1995 I was diagnosed with a degenerative bone disease. I have had to undergo two major surgeries and extensive physical rehabilitation resulting in my now being disabled. This has given me the opportunity for most of the past three years to watch the Washington Journal almost every day (except for medical appointments). I recognize the callers by voice who constantly violate the 30 day policy and I make notes on the guests and their political leanings. Of course, I also listen to the countless conservative Republicans who lie and call in on the Democratic line (evidently, being an ultra-radical right wing lunatic/mutcake also involves egomania to the point where only their views are "acceptable").

I am a 45 year old, old-fashioned Boston Irish Catholic, Tip O'Neil style, Kennedy loving, Clinton loving straight ticket-voting Democrat! I am also gay.

I include mentioning my sexual orientation only because it is tied directly to the Washington Journal of Friday, April 10, 1998. For over two hours viewers were subjected to the rantings of Earl Jackson (of Boston). I do not use the term "Reverend" with his name because, as a Christian, I find Mr. Jackson to be a dispenser of hatred (the exact opposite of the teachings of Jesus Christ as I learned them). He is well known in the greater Boston Area for his rabid homophobic rantings and his virulent ultra-radical, extremist right wing invective. I deeply felt that C-SPAN, on April 10th, lowered its impeccable standards to a subterranean level with Mr. Jackson monopolizing the airwaves with his propaganda. Having him on for such a lengthy time period is the same level of insult to the gay community as it would be to African-Americans if you had a Grand Wizard of the KKK on for a similar time span!

Also, on the same Journal you had another guest, Dana Milbank (no moderate is he!). One of your callers asked a question of your guest that so many of us would love to hear answered. Mr. Milbank completely ignored it and you also let slide by, Connie. The caller asked how Steve Forbes, the new pix-up poster boy of Pat Robertson, Ralph Reed and other vicious homophobes, is going to explain

his father's long time involvement in the "gay scene" for many years before his death.

Countless stories have circulated for years about Malcolm Forbes' insatiable fondness for younger men and his prominence in the gay leather/motorcycle crowd. When you have that much money you can get whatever you want!

In conclusion, during these last three years of great physical pain and shattered plans for the future, C-SPAN has been a rock - an anchor - in my daily existence. Washington Journal has become an integral part of my day. I count you, Brian, Susan, Marge Arney and the rest of the C-SPAN staff as "friends from a distance". Thank you for letting me vent my anger at the April 10th Journal and please be certain that I will continue to turn to C-SPAN each morning at 7:00 A.M.

Connie, I respectfully request that you share this letter with Brian and the other hosts.

Most sincerely,

[Redacted signature]



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FDR
MEMORIAL

FOUNDING MEMBER