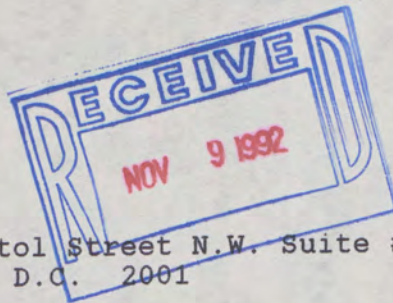


Brian Lamb
C-Span
100 N. Capitol Street N.W. Suite # 650
Washington, D.C. 2001



November 2nd, 1992

Dear Brian Lamb,

I have been listening to your programs much of today and, as usual, am fascinated both by the skill with which you facilitate the dialogue and the information which you elicit from the participants without revealing your own biases. What a performance! The contrast with the terrible job the mainstream media does will surely have some effect; or at least I hope so. I keep writing my local Public Radio (Minnesota Public Radio, which prides itself on its quality news reporting when it really is serving the interests of its corporate donors) to watch how you do it if they want to see a class act. Unfortunately the media, public and private, are beholden to those who pay the bills so I know my protestations are fruitless. You have the luxury of a guaranteed constant flow of money from people who have no leverage to control you. I am so glad that you were chosen for this important responsibility. It is the only window we have left through which we can see for ourselves what really goes on in the politics of this country and it is our only means of responding, limited though that is. (I have never been able to get through to your station on any call-in show.)

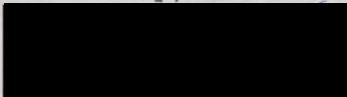
Having said all that, I do want to send this cautionary word. You must have realized this for yourself but, in case you haven't considered it; there is no way you are going to reach a representative cross-section of the U.S. electorate. After hours of watching your program today, I hardly heard one caller who sounded as if he/she was really poor. Also, (and I admit this was hard to detect and it is only a guess) I doubt there were many minorities. In all the commentaries about issues, I rarely heard anything about race, human rights, or foreign or domestic policies which affect unions or minority groups. This is phenomenal in the light of the L.A. riots. Your conversations revolve around middle class issues. All the hours I watched, your media experts were white. I realize this isn't always true but I do wish you would cover the issues which have been purposefully ignored by the candidates. There are lots of angry white middle class people but their anger is as nothing compared to the ones who are out in the street; who have no home phone they can hang onto for hours as they

wait to talk to you. It's terribly important for us all to realize that IT ISN'T WHAT GETS ONTO THE T.V. SCREENS OR INTO THE NEWSPAPERS THAT DISTORTS OUR PERSPECTIVE OF WHAT IS. IT'S WHAT IS IGNORED. I'm especially fascinated by the way Jessie Jackson has simply disappeared as though he never existed. Our local Public T.V. (KTCA) had an excellent in-studio dialogue last week allowing only the homeless and welfare clients to participate while Senator Wellstone and Mayor Fraser of Minneapolis listened and then tried to respond. It was a wonderful insight into their perspective and it was particularly poignant in that it followed the terrific Frontline documentary revealing the lives and lifestyles of the funders of Clinton and Bush.

What I have cherished from you is the chance to see and hear from one of the few honest men in our government, Representative Henry Gonzalez. Isn't it astonishing that most people in the U.S. have never heard of him? Here he is, holding his finger in the dyke, hanging on to our constitution for dear life, and no-one is watching except we C-Span junkies. Thank you! if only for that.

Please keep up the good work and, if you can find a way to do so, enlarge the spectrum of your participants.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.