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Personal - Brian Lamb
C-Span

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One evening (I believe) this past week you had the former House Representatives Claudine Schneider and Birch Bayh join you for discussions--- and Norman J Ornstein of AEI---

I do not think it is fair to the public to have these people from American Enterprise Institute on - or any of their panel discussions - without explaining to Americans what it is they are actually and what they really do---

These think tanks - certainly conservative- receive the financial backing of business firms which wish to get their message - usually conservative - across---

Ornstein is certainly not un-biased -- nor un-aligned-- and is serving the interests of corporations he serves--- It is an effective public relations operation - (scam-?) AEI scholars Robert Bork and Jeanne Kirkpatrick serve up opinions (political, social, economic) which are then syndicated in hundreds of daily newspapers---

Other AEI associates serve as paid consultants for the three main TV networks-- AEI "qaotemaster" Norman Ornstein claims to be logging 1300 calls from 180 news organizations---

AEI receives financial support from various news media, including the NY Times, Washington Post/Graham Fund, and Times-Morrison (parent of LA Times)-- One of AEI's favorite whipping boys is Jesse Jackson who has an anti-corporate presidential campaign--

Business executives who sit on AEI's board of trustees: Mobil Oil, Proctor & Gamble, Chase Manhattan, Citibank, Rockwell International and GE----!!!!

GE also supports the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) an AEI spinoff based in Washington-- During one six week period they have talied 650 media contacts:TV appearances, opinion columns, and quotations in news stories---

I've just noted part of a CNN/Crier & Company show where Ben Wattenberg of AEI took part in a discussion of acceptable use of Indian heritage--- i.e. "Braves" "Tomohawk" -- He had some really inane things to say-- he was a "spoiler" - the disinformant---

And, this criticism of AEI and its supposedly neutral thinking is more ~~than~~ true of the American Heritage Foundation---

These are not independent experts, yet they color and at times dominate mass media--

Now, I'd just like to say what you obviously know - much of this is paraphrased from the book "Unreliable Sources" --- However, the feelings I hold in regard to these organizations were simply more legitimately held given the information I certainly did not have before about the background of AEI and Heritage--- There is always an odd- distasteful -- vulgar feeling of being duped when these people are on --- wherever they are on---

I think it should be sufficient to let two grown up adults like Claudine Schneider and Birch Bayh discuss events without a monitor like Ornstein sitting over them making sure Claudine says the right things--- and none of the wrong things get said---

Is the White House leaning heavily over the shoulders of C-Span---?
Please tell me NO!!!!

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PS: Additionally--- Not to make clear over and over again that the Washington Times is owned by Rev Moon---is to help spread disinformation--- We need more of Ben Badikian, Noam Chomsky, Helen Thomas, (changes at UPI should be discussed---) and Sarah McClendon (thanks for that coverage of the speech she gave at Women Inst for Research--- Since religion has entered the media-- (Pat Robertson) let's have some discussions of the dangers of not taxing religions----

The story of Madlyn O' Hare and the intimidation of herself and her family by our Government was shocking to me! Land of the free!
I had no idea--- and wouldn't have had it not been for C-Span---

Best Wishes to you all!!!



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*400 North Capitol Street NW
Washington, DC*

20005

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