

[REDACTED]
Bryan, TX 77801

I watch C-Span because until the advent of C-Span, I had considered becoming politically knowledgeable sometime in the future. I didn't exactly know when this future would be, however, it would definitely occur after I had attained my college degree, a job, a stable family life. Then, I presumed, I would be ready to pursue my interest in political matters. Then, I discovered C-SPAN.

I love to debate issues and exchange ideas with my fellow students, especially about politics; however, I know that there are so many issues, campaign promises, and rhetoric that I never thought I would find the time to investigate everything fully enough to feel confident enough to discuss it. C-SPAN gives so much freedom, it is always on, all I have to do is turn on the tube and be entertained.

Sometime after Watergate, I became interested in politicians and wondered what they were really like, and what made them tick. I began reading all the books relating to Watergate and these books, in turn, led me to other political books. These books fascinated me as I saw many elements in politicians and political campaigns that I had previously admired in Olympic athletes. Competition, team work, strategy, determination, evaluation of one's strengths and weaknesses, and amazing courage and ambition were all qualities I recognized in the campaigns of famous political leaders. While I could understand why world class athletes would pursue their "pie-in-the-sky" dreams, I couldn't understand why politicians would adopt the same, "No guts, no glory" philosophy. However, the fact that they did pursue their life-long aspirations in such a bold way, won my total respect.

C-Span had me hooked because I got to see and hear the very politicians I had previously read about in some remote paperback world. I had the opportunity to observe their reactions to the pressures of the campaign trail, and, live debates, both accusations and inquiries.

Through watching my paperback heroes, I learned a lot about myself. I realized I had a powerful interest in politics and C-SPAN brought that out in me along with a lot of other items of interest. I surprised myself by being amazed to see influential and competent women leaders involved in politicking. I felt proud for these ladies and a little ashamed that I may have held an unconscious bias toward their abilities.

I watch C-SPAN because it has revived in me patriotism and concern for my country. C-SPAN keeps me informed and knowledgeable on every current issue. It instills in me a belief that I can be part of the political process in America, and I am going to continue to believe, no matter what anyone else says, that my vote can make a difference. I watch C-SPAN because, simply, it is a great idea, and I like to support great ideas. Because of C-SPAN, I can get excited about what's going on in the world; and therefore, I can be proud to help elect some of the public servants of the world's greatest democracy.