

3-3-97

Dear C-SPAN Programmers,

It is obvious already your Lincoln-Douglass Debate Series is going to be a rip-roaring success. It is also obvious that because this project will be no small undertaking and a rather special event, C-SPAN viewers cannot expect to see this kind of programming on anything close to a regular basis. I do have an idea for a "Historical Profile" series that might be more feasible, however, and I'd like to share my thoughts with you.

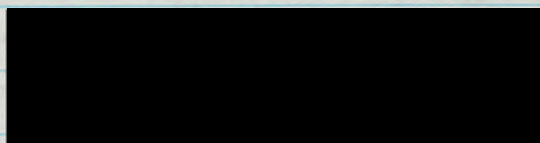
My idea is based on your "American Profile" series, except that instead of interviewing George Mitchell and Thomas Foley you would be interviewing George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Perhaps every so often you could invite a guest who is an expert on a particular historical or political figure in for an interview (such as the people who will be portraying Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglass). The guest would dress exactly as the person being portrayed would have been dressed during their particular period in history. The interviewer would ask questions pertaining to issues important in that time period as well as questions biographical in nature. The historical figure being portrayed would answer "in character". This series could also be used for "C-SPAN in the Classroom".



It would give kids a better understanding of other periods in time as well as the people who helped to shape events, and perhaps generate a greater interest in history and politics.

I think a series like this would be interesting, entertaining, informative and a success - especially with kids.

Sincerely,



Ridge, N.Y. 11961

P.S. I think it would be a great idea if you had "open phones" after the Lincoln - Douglass debates just as you did after the 1992 Presidential Debates. You could pose the question "Who do you think won the debate and why?" after viewer reaction you could then have an expert on telling us who won the debate back then, and why, and we could compare the reactions between then and now.