

New Iberia, La.
Zip 70562-1702

July 4, 1994

Mr. Bryan Lamb
C-SPAN
400 North Capitol Street Northwest
Suite #650
Washington, D. C. 20001

viewer

RE: Program suggestions.

Dear Mr. Lamb:

First, I must thank you for C-Span, without which I would still be ignorant about too many aspects of our government, society and economy. I wish you great success and prosperity.

For many years I could only listen to your program on the audio signal of scrambled cable TV channels. Recently, the local cable TV company finally included C-Span 1, and I now have the luxury of viewing some of your programs. Over the years, with your help, I have realized that politicians of both parties, because of the tremendous costs of running successful campaigns, have succumbed to the will of very wealthy and greedy individuals and entities.

It has also become increasingly obvious to us that these corrupted individuals, who insist upon calling each other *honorable gentlemen*, argue and fight over how to control the social and micro-economic aspects of our lives, and how to increase our taxes to support ever growing, non-productive segments of the private sector as well as the bloated bureaucracies that serve only themselves and parasitic segments of our society. They do not, however, disagree when those who have bribed them want special tax laws, special treatment for themselves as they transfer wealth, industries and jobs out of our country, and legislation that helps them redistribute wealth from the hard working citizens of this country, to their own pockets.

The Congress of the United States has created a complex and confusing array of smoke and mirrors to conceal their insidious actions and extend their control over us. I note that they and the media call our form of government a *democracy*, refer to new taxes to be extorted from us by the I. R. S. as *contributions*, and call redistributing wealth from working people to the non-productive an *investment*. Exposing the truth about what these people are actually doing and have done may well hasten much needed reform of our government, and be the most significant achievement of your courageous, honorable and most laudable accomplishments.

Although I consider myself fairly intelligent and observant, after listening to the House of Representatives in session, I find that I seldom know the details of, or what the final outcome is, of many if not most of the items considered on the floor. You could provide a valuable service to our country by introducing a program that **objectively** explains each significant bill or amendment, a synopsis of the debate on each item, the final outcome of the vote on that issue, and the implications for the American people of its passage or its failure to pass.

It may also be important for us to know how the members of each of the political parties voted on each item. Tracking the voting records of politicians by state and making this information readily available to the general public might also give us new insights.

I also pray that you might consider hosting a **new category** of "call-in" program that recognizes that a competent and knowledgeable individual **does not** have to espouse the views of any political party, and that much if not most of the time, the established political organizations are neither honest with us, nor do they respect much less represent the majority of our citizens. These programs could then address important if not crucial problems in our government and economy that are either completely ignored or are inadequately addressed by the government, and misrepresented or trivialized by the popular media.

Essential to such a bold undertaking would be to ensure the objectivity of guests by carefully selecting only those who: (1) **Are not** devout members or advocates of either of the two major *political parties*; (2) **Are not** *journalists*, the majority of whom essentially belong to the same special interests that control the government; and (3) **Are not** so called *experts* who all too frequently reflect biased or tunnel-vision perspectives that are at best only half truths.

The individuals that you select as guests should be very well informed, intelligent and possess some degree of wisdom. They also should have the rare quality of being unselfish and possess integrity beyond reproach. Although it will be difficult and challenging to find such people, their perspectives would be far more salient, honest and illuminating than the dogma, half truths and blatant lies of most politicians and members of the *news* medias.

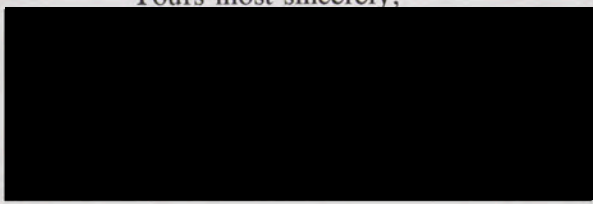
On air conversations between such guests and your callers would open bold new vistas of thought and philosophy, and a deeper understanding of the true motives of the minions of the wealthy and powerful who now control our country. I think that we would find that much of the tunnel-vision, hypocrisy and propaganda would in short order be exposed for what it is, and that the true intentions, as well as the fraud and incompetence of the Washington Establishment, might be exposed to the good people of our country. Alternatives to failed philosophies and corrupt political parties could then be introduced, discussed, and hopefully implemented.

In such a free, open and unbiased forum, major problems facing this nation, that the establishment media will not present or discuss, could finally be aired. Might we even discover that our present form of government is not a democracy, and that neither *capitalism* nor *socialism* is the optimal socio-economic philosophy? (Please see the enclosures.)

The deceptive rhetoric of the politicians and most of the news media are already well known to most Americans, and unfortunately believed by all too many. We the people must all recognize that once an individual has demonstrated that he or she is a liar, or by incompetence has failed to recognize the truth, nothing said thereafter by that individual should be construed as credible. Integrity, competence and wisdom are not superficial, and once their absence is demonstrated in a particular individual or institution, confidence in them cannot be regained in the eyes and minds of reasonable people.

Thank you for everything!

Yours most sincerely,



PS: Please see the reverse of this page.

Questions to Ponder

(I) Are F.I.C.A. payments insurance premiums or they taxes?

- (A) In the 1960's Social Security benefits, deemed *entitlements*, were bestowed by congress upon a large segment of the population that **had not** paid into the *trust*, essentially negating the concept that these funds are akin to insurance premiums, and thereby shifting much of the funds in the *trust* to the category of general funds (tax revenues).
 - (B) All F.I.C.A. funds (the *trust*) were actually spent by congress years ago, and the misappropriation of these funds from the *trust* is not even disclosed by congress.
 - (C) F.I.C.A. payments currently collected from working Americans are now used to fund immediate Social Security and Entitlement *obligations*, some going to individuals but most actually consumed by the bureaucracies that administer these programs.
 - (D) The stated *surpluses* in the *trust* (if any) are immediately borrowed by congress, transferred to the general funds, and spent, so that there are still no funds in the *trust*.
 - (E) The vast majority, if not all of the government pension plans also **are not** funded, and at some time in the not too distant future these obligations will consume a major portion of the budget, and will have to be paid from general funds, one way or the other.
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- ? (1) If the funds collected as F.I.C.A. obligations are now actually being used to repay the borrowed *trust* funds, then are they not actually a tax to repay a debt, rather than investments going into a *trust* for the future?
 - ? (2) Do these facts lead to the conclusion that the 15.2% F.I.C.A. obligation paid by working individuals (*Note that employer **contribution** is actually a hidden deduction from an individual's compensation.*) is **actually a tax** on these individuals who earn less than some nominal figure, but which prosperous and wealthy individuals are exempt from paying on their incomes above that level?
 - ? (3) Since F.I.C.A. must be paid by working people from the first penny earned, if F.I.C.A. is actually a tax, are not the poorest of the working citizens of this country taxed at the highest rate?
 - ? (4) When the "baby-boom" generation begins to retire and claim their justly deserved Social Security benefits, and the working sector of this country, which has been shrinking and probably will continue to decline, cannot afford the levels of F.I.C.A. (taxes) to repay the *trust* for this purpose, what might happen?
 - (a) Will congress continue to increase taxes and F.I.C.A. until they consume 100% of the income of the productive people of this country?
(Note: Several years ago, J. Peter Grace, speaking at the Washington Press Club, stated that the average american worker was then paying 72% of his or her income in taxes of one sort or another.)
 - (b) Will congress to continue to borrow, with no realistic repayment plan, the hundreds of billions of dollars that will be required to replenish the plundered *trusts*?
 - (c) Sooner or later will the interest on the debt and funding of social programs consume all plausible present and future tax revenues?
 - (d) Is it really possible for an overtaxed and over-regulated economy to grow so as to increase the tax base?
 - (e) What might happen to prevent (a), (b) and (c) above?
 - (f) What might happen if these are not prevented?

PS: *As a professional real estate appraiser, I have for many years maintained a fiduciary relationship with lenders, regulators and the American People, in providing impartial and competent real estate appraisals to government insured lenders for loan purposes.*

I am now struggling to maintain my practice in the face of competition from an ever growing number of freshly "certified", mostly part time "appraisers" who meet only shoddy minimum standards, and most of whom do not even know the definitions of "fiduciary" and "integrity". This phenomenon is the result of a pronounced absence of any effective FDIC regulation of lending institutions, and a "bottom line" mentality that has been replacing fiduciary considerations in too many of this nation's banks and thrifts.

Thus, I possess a personal insight into the phenomenon of an ever expanding Peter Principal management philosophy in both the public and private sector, and the establishment of greed as a desirable trait to be not only tolerated, but fostered and praised.

If these trends are allowed to continue and grow, I fear that the future of the citizens of the United States of America will be bleak, filled with strife and misery. History will then repeat itself, and an angry populace will rise up in revolution against the established government that has failed them.

(II) **Is it possible for someone with wisdom and integrity to be elected to any state or federal public office?**

- (A) Vast sums of money for campaign advertising through all forms of media are presently spent for every election of any consequence in the United States.
 - (B) Candidates for public office who do not or can not spend a small fortune on campaign advertising are almost never elected.
 - (C) In order to fund a political campaign, almost every individual who seeks public office must obtain the endorsement and funding of one or the other major political party, and/or that of very wealthy and powerful individuals and/or organizations.
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- ? (1) Can an individual receive funding to run for office or to maintain incumbency without essentially agreeing to represent, espouse and enforce the perspectives and goals of a political party, and in doing so, serve those individuals and organizations that fund that party and individual's campaign?
 - ? (2) Is there any way that an individual might run for a major political office without spending hundreds of thousands, if not millions of dollars on campaign advertising, given the nature and efficiency of the advertising industry and media to convince people to vote for, or not to vote for any given candidate?
 - ? (3) Given that the answers to (1) and (2) above are most likely "No":
 - (a) Whom do the elected representatives in our state and federal governments actually represent and serve?
 - (b) Under current campaign laws and regulations, is there any way that an individual who has true integrity and wants to act for the good of all of the people of this country can realistically be elected to any state or federal office?
 - ? (4) Without reforming campaign laws to remove the need for every candidate for public office to acquire funds from political parties and/or wealthy individuals, would term limitations actually enhance or improve popular representation?
 - ? (5) How might the current electoral process be improved such that the working people of this country could elect candidates who would actually represent them?
 - ? (6) Even if the effects of campaign contributions and party affiliations were eliminated, would there still be residual phenomenon that might prevent or discourage true representation of the working people of this country?
 - (a) When a large percentage of the electorate are financially supported by government programs, and do not pay any income taxes, are the rights and incomes of those who actually do work for a living compromised? (*Will production continue to be penalized and non-production rewarded?*)
 - (b) When about a quarter of the *workers* in this country are employed by governmental bodies and agencies, can these individuals vote impartially in elections wherein one or more candidates may reflect the perspectives of truly productive, working taxpayers, that would curtail or reduce the size of government and eliminate wasteful government spending, non productive bureaucracies and the associated *jobs*? (*Will useless and bloated bureaucracies be maintained anyway?*)