

JCC: S. Trahern; B. Lamb; S. Swain

3908-90

November 15, 1990

Sir: NOV 20 REC'D
11/19/90

I ask you to forgive this most informal letter. Notwithstanding that beginning there are several points I wish to address.

The main point I wish to make comment is that of those persons who anchor that, call in programs. On the high end or most creditable is Susan Swain, on the low end or least fair is Brian Lamb. All others lie somewhere to the right of center.

Ms Swain not only exhibits in depth preparation for the individual guest, but addresses issues which go to the core of the subject. With regard to the caller, she often repeats the questions, elaborates on the comment and follows it until an answer is forthcoming from the guest. I have found that most often Ms Swain will not let a caller's general remark to serve as a reply - she presses for a more definitive statement.

All that I have said as being a pos for Ms. Swain, are viewed as being negatives for Mr. Lamb. Add to this his finger fingers on the button to cut off a caller and his habit of telling the guest what they have just said and you have a person who does not belong in that seat.

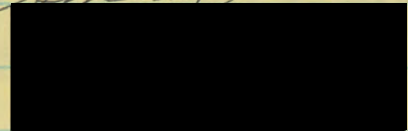
It is my impression that South Africa and Israel are taboo subjects to be skirted by.

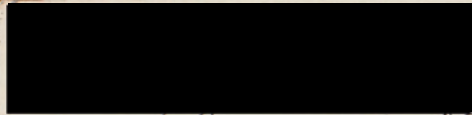
the host of the call-in program. As a case in point consider the question posed to Mr. Lieber (Oct 30th at 8:45 AM) on the bias often exhibited by Jewish guests. Mr. Lamb skirted the question. When at 9:05 am another ^{caller} referred to the previous caller's question - Mr Lamb cut him off the air.

Other hosts have given like treatment to questions or comments concerning South Africa. I have long regarded C-span as a source of factual information. Continued "watering down" of programs in the manner described above will in time dilute the respect you have heretofore been held.

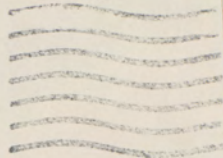
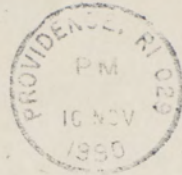
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,





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