

Apr. 18 1983

I WATCH C-SPAN BECAUSE

I watch C-Span because it deals with the affairs of our nation like no other programming does, or could. The qualities which have made C-Span so good are that it has reached a level of reality in programming heretofore unmatched. No middle men to interpret what it all means. C-Span trusts the viewers intelligence enough to let them judge the facts on their own. It is a no frills product which to many of us is a refreshing change from most contemporary national affairs programming. Viewers of the Live Congressional debates may not like the outcome of every debate and vote on the house floor but they cannot argue that this is not what took place. C-Span is giving the American public the raw ~~raw~~ materials to make better decisions on. The call in programs insure that we hear the opinions of citizens from many walks of life and not just experts and politicians.

C-Span demands more from its viewers because it doesn't explain everything for everyone. It demands an educated viewer who keeps up on the issues. Friends and members of the family get disturbed with my capacity to enjoy factual programming of this nature. But then I could never understand how people watch soap operas either.

Next to reality in programming in importance is, balance in types of programming presented, and the objectivity with which the subjects are presented. Whether it is a Studs Terkel interview or Richard Vigari there is balance in programming, and objectivity doesn't mean that things don't get heated and controversial. It does mean that the callers and interviewees are allowed to shape the programs content while C-Span staff play the role of referee.

24 Hour programming has to be the next in importance. It is hard for me to get opportunities to watch C-Span during the day and prime time because of work and other programming being watched by someone else in the family. Much of the best undisturbed viewing I have done has been after midnight. I cant say enough about 24 hour programming.

In this electronic age America would be much worse off without C-Span. I would be ignorant of many things which I now accept as common knowledge. I hope that C-Spans live coverage of Congress will help open the doors to live telivised coverage of the Senate.


In this election year C-Span's constituency is growing and I think many americans will find out how much it has to offer. Im sure some of these people will become loyal viewers after the elections are over.

Realit y in programming, Ballance in programming, objectivity in programming, 24 hour programming, limited comercials(the fewer the better), and good music beetween programs make C-Span what it is.

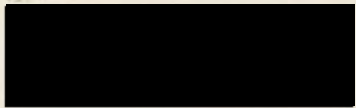
The interviewers have achieved a high degree of credibility with me. Their unassuming nature grows on you to the point that I feel i'm beginning to know them.

The Roman Maxim that if you give the people something to watch in the arena they wont ask what your doing in the senate works in a contemporary setting. C-Span is helping to turn that around.

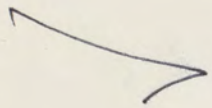
Thank You



Please excuse any misspellings or errors due to shortness of time
I sent this off right away.



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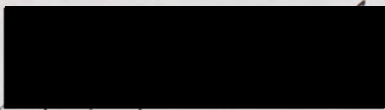
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