

C-Span

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Essay

I watch C-Span because it is the first time in my life I can feel, see and hear our Democracy flourish. The voices that come across the land lines and frequency waves of C-Span give evidence of individuals freedom to affect our Democracy.

When Sir William Stephenson solved the equation for television, he knew precisely what he had and what it would bring for all. When Sir Winston Churchill in desperation had to find a way to save his nation, his voice to free men and women harnessed their energies, brought us together in hard negotiation with President Roosevelt and our allies and won for us all the freedoms we enjoy today.

We are a nation of poor readers, writers, listeners and speakers because metaphor constantly changes and is ever growing in complexity and meaning. Pluralist and representative Democracy can not function without the active participation of an informed electorate. Slogans, headlines and self-serving excerpts do not and can not explain facts of the minute.

C-Span in their dedication has shown that we have a nation of honest, hard working and committed people who are taught by misinformed but well intentioned people to fear everything; don't get involved; look upon your enemies as evil; just worry about yourself; let the other guy do it; me first; and a host of metaphors that are naive, half-conscious and insidiously employed misinterpretations of a civilization that we know absolutely nothing about.

Most of us have been looking outside ourselves for the answers to our problems. They are not there and never will be there. The answers to our destinies are within ourselves. Only by sharing the best that is within all of us, one with one another can we ever hope to solve the inexplicable problems of government of the people, by the people and for the people.

C-Span has never failed to try to tap the gold within the individual and respond to us the viewer with congressional debates, election coverage, news of current events and many diversified shows of vital interest.

My own personal joy is the one hour call-in show at 9:00 AM every thirty days. I can speak, comment and question the many journalists among the finest in the world; other breaking news and informed men and women who speak and live up to their records of success and achievement. The two-way dialogue, picture and sound of accurate events that is created between the moderator of C-Span and the viewer is a new heritage of individual freedom on this earth. C-Span is our hope for the future.