

10/11/71

Mr. Nicholas Johnson, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

It has now been more than a month since you wrote that you had referred my request for help in seeking fairness-doctrine time of the Merv Griffin Show to your Mr. Fry. To this day I have heard nothing from anybody.

Does not such delay alone on topical subjects of national interest as the political assassinations and especially the cases of Dr. King and James Earl Ray and the performance of the institutions of society make the doctrine meaningless? Look at all the time it took before I wrote you? When the effort is to correct false information given the people, can one even hope to catch up with the lie?

Since then Jim Bishop has been getting a big play with his goose-grease-in-type on the same subject. His first appearance of which I know was on the David Frost Show. After I wrote and asked for equal time, adding a few comments on the depths of Mr. Bishop's well-paid ignorance of the simplest fact of that of which he writes, instead of replying to me the Frost Show had him back again to defame those he could, ranging from the Secret Service, to which he attributed the impossible, the "sanitizing" of Dallas (hence by inference a degree of responsibility for the JFK assassination), to Dr. King, who he called a coward. I wrote Frost a second letter and to date have had no response.

Writing these people is meaningless. They couldn't care less about your regulations and doctrines when they want to get political ideas across or espouse a point of view they know will be well received in high quarters. I've had a few responses, usually irrelevant, but sometimes such things as the suggestion that I write the individual stations!

I am disappointed that your own people pay so little attention to their own Commissioner. Have we come to this point?

I'd appreciate it if you could find time to follow this up for me, please.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg