

February 21, 1977

Lou Gordon
P.O. Box 700
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Dear Lou:

I watch your show nearly every week and find it extremely informative, as well as entertaining. Furthermore, your views seem to parallel mine with amazing consistency. However, I must complain about your February 20th show aired in the Boston area, particularly your so-called "interview" with Harold Weisberg.

Unfortunately, that segment of the program amounted to a shouting match -- with you doing all the shouting. Your constant haranguing of Weisberg was more in the tradition of a third-degree straight out of a B-rated movie, rather than an example of objective journalism. Obviously, your incessant interruptions were in defense of your own bias on the subject -- as if you feared what Weisberg might reveal in the form of documents and facts.

But pity the audience, for the viewer learned nothing substantial.

Rarely was Weisberg given a chance to answer any of your questions completely. Your shotgun-approach prevented that. And your adamant refusal to consider any of the FBI documents he offered was a disgusting display of close-mindedness.

Furthermore, your "logic" left a lot to be desired. It doesn't necessarily follow that because Weisberg raises questions he has the answers; nor was it fair to keep alluding to Weisberg's "theories." Weisberg said he had no theories; that he dealt in facts.

In his "Whitewash I" and "Whitewash II," Weisberg was one of the first American writers to point out the many inconsistencies and unanswered questions in the Warren Commission Report on the Kennedy assassination -- without going overboard and theorizing! And here we are, years later, with a committee of the House of Representatives finally looking into just that!

The same holds true for the King murder. As you so graciously pointed out, Griffin Bell stated on nationwide TV that there were still unanswered questions about the King assassination, despite a Justice Department investigation.

Lou, I would suggest that you play back that segment of the program and take a hard, close look at yourself to determine whether you were objective or fair with Mr. Weisberg.

Short of an apology, I think you owe Weisberg a return visit -- if not for his sake, for the sake of interested viewers who were short-changed on a subject of vital interest and importance.

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Needless to say, I will continue to watch your show and hope that in the future you will do your homework so that you will be better prepared to resist the temptation to harrass your controversial guests.

Sincerely,
Hal Deneault

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cc: Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md.