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Agnew's Advice

New York

Spiro Agnew, making his first network television appearance since he resigned as vice president 2½ years ago, said yesterday he would "probably not" choose politics as a career if he had it to do over again.

He said most of the reasons lie with the news media.

"It is impossible for a person in politics to do the job he was elected to do," Agnew said on the NBC "Today" program. And because of the present climate—"It's just open season on politicians"—he would

not advise young people to seek their future in politics, he said.

Agnew's own future in politics ended Oct. 10, 1973, when he pleaded "no contest" to one count of tax evasion. He was fined \$10,000 and put on three years of unsupervised probation.

Agnew, 57, was on the TV program to promote his book, "The Canfield Decision," a novel of political intrigue and romance.

Talking about the difficulties of working in politics, Agnew placed a large part of the blame for the situation on the news media. San Francisco Chronicle 13

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Denouncing "the power in the media, in the hands of just a few people...not subject to the control of voters," Agnew said, "The Constitution never intended, I don't believe, that the news media would be running the country."

He said news organizations have more power than Congress "because they exert such a profound influence on Congress."

He steadfastly refused to discuss the events surrounding his court case and his subsequent disbarring.

Associated Press