

BBC Charter Review
Consultation

The BBC fails in the important aspect of political impartiality in news & current affairs. I notice that politics is not mentioned in your consultation document just as the word impartiality was hardly ever mentioned in all the BBC talks about Gillingham. The BBC has been anti Labour for a very long time & Gillingham was just waiting to happen - he went too far - even for the BBC, which is institutionalized Toryism. The Tories almost always have the last word in any discussion; they are always in the position of being able to comment on what Labour has said but never the reverse.

Question Time is possibly an exception to this but the Chairman always has a tighter rein on the Government spokesman than on others. However, the Question Time audience is always packed with Government opponents. A deplorable example of this was Question Time immediately after the bomb attacks on the Twin Towers in New York. The Prime Minister had said that he stood shoulder to shoulder with America - the audience was packed - at short notice - with anti-Americans some of whom favoured the terrorists. The ex American Ambassador on the panel was almost brought to tears. This is what the BBC is capable of in their anti-labourism.

It is a bad thing for democracy when even the BBC cannot give reliable & impartial information to the public. All they get is highly distorted accounts of public affairs.

There should be an independent committee based on the Universities to ensure impartiality

R.A. Barne 29/2/04