HOW MY GRAPHIC NOVEL GOT ME ON C-SPAN

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

by Bryan Caplan
I'm Bryan Caplan, an economics professor at George Mason University...

... an openly nerdy man.
My nerdy obsessions include economics... libertarianism... Tolstoy... strategy games... behavioral genetics... German opera... personality psychology... role-playing games... totalitarianism... and graphic novels.
Princeton University Press recently published my first book. But I've also just written a graphic novel. For the time being, it's "self-published."

Still, my graphic novel got a lot of readers after it was blogged... by Tyler Cowen of Marginal Revolution.

And one of those readers - Tim Kane from Heritage - got me on C-SPAN.
Here's how.

Later, at "Wild Chicken" of Fairfax...

Cool. You should meet us at GMU for lunch. Do you like Peruvian chicken?

Another economist who likes comic books? I thought I was the only one.

So besides the graphic novel, what are you working on?

I've also got a book on voter irrationality with Princeton University Press.

It's just about to hit the market.

Interesting... You should present it at Heritage. We might even get C-SPAN to cover it.

Sure, sounds fun.

C-SPAN? Like that's gonna happen...
One month later, at the Heritage Foundation...

So Tim, how should I present the diagrams?

Work around them... They won't show up well on t.v. anyway.

[Gulp!] I'm going to be on t.v.?

Oh, I thought you knew...

It's a lot easier to get on C-SPAN when Congress is out of session.

[Gulp!] Of course... Just give me a minute to write a completely new talk.
...so please join me and the Heritage Foundation in welcoming Prof. Caplan today.

Thank you, Tim!

Most social scientists assume that voters' errors balance out, implying that their average beliefs are true.

My book, *The Myth of the Rational Voter*, argues that this is just wishful thinking...

I liked this book a lot. And if you think Caplan is setting up a straw man, he's not!
Whew!

Just one nerdy thing left to do...

Blog it!

Now we'll take some questions from the audience.

And that's how my graphic novel got me on t.v. to talk about my "real book."

True story!

**Permanent Link**

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How My Graphic Novel Got Me on C-SPAN

Bryan Caplan

True order of events:

1. I put my graphic novel on my webpage.

2. Tyler blogged it.

3. Tim Kane read Tyler's blog and emailed me about our shared interests in economics