



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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November 9, 1999

Bob Wright
President and CEO, NBC
30 Rockefeller Center
New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Wright,

It has come to my attention that NBC intends to air a Late Night with Conan O'Brien show featuring Rage Against the Machine as its musical guest. I am urging NBC not to air this show, or, at the very least, to cut the segment featuring this band.

Rage Against the Machine has been at the forefront in the efforts to release Mumia Abu-Jamal, a despicable man who was convicted in 1982 of the murder of 26-year old Philadelphia Police Officer Danny Faulkner. The biography of the band posted on your website indicates their support for "a campaign to release death row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal." It does not mention that this person is the murderer of a police officer, but instead links him with their "perennial theme of freeing the oppressed." Abu-Jamal is not oppressed; he is a cold-blooded killer.

Rage Against the Machine headlined a benefit concert earlier this year and has held numerous press conferences to repeat the ridiculous lies spouted by this murderer. We believe very strongly that no one ought to profit from murder, and the fund-raising activities of Rage Against the Machine and others are allowing just that: Abu-Jamal is profiting from killing a police officer. The biography on your website also acknowledges the band's role as Abu-Jamal's chief fund-raiser, correctly observing that those who buy Rage Against the Machine's albums, attend their concerts and watch television programs featuring them are "indirectly feeding the coffers for a number of the band's favorite causes."

At the F.O.P.'s most recent National Conference, our organization voted unanimously to initiate a boycott of those who publicly and financially support this killer. The Fraternal Order of Police has already asked its members, our families and friends not to watch the show if Rage Against the Machine appears. In addition, our members will be contacting the more than 200 NBC affiliates asking them not to air it in their communities.

Airing this show is hurtful to police officers and their families and is incredibly disrespectful to the family of Danny Faulkner. While Rage Against the Machine is touting Abu-Jamal as a "political dissident," I think you should know that before joining the Philadelphia police force, Danny Faulkner proudly served in the United States Army. Your decision to air a show featuring Abu-Jamal's money Machine on Veteran's Day—a day set aside by our nation to honor its veteran heroes—adds insult to injury.

Therefore, I strongly urge you not to air the show.

If you ignore this request, the F.O.P. will ask its members as well as our families, friends and neighbors to boycott your network and sponsors whose ads run during the program. I look forward to hearing from you before the show.

Sincerely,

Gilbert G. Gallegos
National President

The Voice of Our Nation's Law Enforcement Officers®