Public discourse

America's least-trusted institutions
— Congress, television news
and big business, says Gallup—
are remorselessly heard-from.
The most trusted are the military (a closed
box to most citizens) and small business
(too poor to advertise at scale).

The feeling of your pain, the stakeholder-flattery: ingratiation has been the way of public and private elites during the exact era that trust in them has dropped.

> Janan Ganesh, Financial Times, February 26, 2021