

"M.M. Docket 93-48"

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SEP 18 1995

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Sept. 12, 1995

Federal Communications Comm.
Office of the Secretary
1919 M St., N. W.
Washington, DC 20554

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To The Commission,

Before we can improve children's programs, I think we should look hard at the other programs available to the children during daytime hours. I have a 10 yr. old daughter who watches Baywatch # 90210. I don't have a problem with the subject matter, but the fact that they have lifeguards like Pamela Anderson to pump up ratings is ridiculous. The program 90210 is definitely not suited for kids and programs like Model, Inc.

and Melrose Place should be run at 10 p.m. or later. Why are the stations allowed to put these programs on so early in the evening. Even commercials have gotten out of hand with suggestive actions + words. Married ~~with~~ Children - although funny - suggests such poor values and that program can be seen on a Sunday evening at 9 p.m.

I can sensor what my children watch, but you can't be there all the time. I have basic cable for reception and won't pay to have HBO, Showtime or any of the movie channels because I didn't want to have to worry what movies my kids were watching when I was busy. Even on basic cable you get MTV, VH1 and other video stations that are very suggestive.

My main point is that TV programming has gone overboard in

"M M Docket 93-48"

trying to escalate ratings by flooding it with sex. Before we create new programs for children, we should take the time to clean up the current ones they can see with a flick of the finger.

Could you please respond to the issue I have brought up or at least let me know how the Network gets away with airing the current programs. My address is:

32 Addison Dr.
Fairfield, N.J. 07004-1502.

Thank you,
Mrs. Susan Grillo

9/14/95

Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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RE: "MM Docket 93-48"

Dear Sirs,

As a mother of three young children, I am very concerned with the type of programming that is on television. My biggest concern is with the prime time programming. I hope that you will take a serious look at this issue. I urge you to increase the amount of children's programming, and decrease the amount of sex and violence especially at 8:00 pm.

Sincerely,

Nicole Mislaw

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

From: RONALD J. OUDIZ, M.D. <OUDIZ@HARBOR2.HUMC.EDU>
To: A16.A16(kidstv)
Date: 9/17/95 3:28pm
Subject: TV Act

The high -technology world today is producing a variety of new ways to disseminate TV programming. The future is multiple satellite- fed "bundles" of TV stations in EVERY household.

Regulating LOCAL stations programming, may have good intent. however it is too little too late to pursue such regulation in this age.

I agree that the govt. must play an important role in regulating TV for children. Programming needs a LOT of improvement, to ensure that our future generation is not SHAPED by anything, but allowed to grow into a healthy, natural, compassionate and conscientious society. Regulating the local TV stations, however lacks foresight in trying to accomplish its goal.

-R

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From: <fuy1@gl.umbc.edu>
To: A16.A16(kidstv)
Date: 9/16/95 6:57pm
Subject: support for educational programming

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear FCC,

Even in the face of a Republican Congress (motto: "regulate people's thoughts, but not corportations"), I would like to see you crack down on the 30 minute advertisements that masquerade as children's TV shows.

Given the sorry state of American parenting and schools, educational television may be our last chance. :(

-F

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From: <RWhite5197@aol.com>
To: A16.A16(kidstv)
Date: 9/17/95 3:31pm
Subject: Childrens Television Act

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Allow broadcasters to compete in providing the best in wholesome entertainment. In as much as the airwaves belong to the people, the government could allocate use of standard frequencies on the basis of which competing station will offer, in writing, the most in terms of family programming with emphasis on those hours when children are likely to be in the audience. Sex and violence could be relegated to the cables or to late hour viewing. By awarding frequencies on the basis of such a competition the government removes itself from setting standards which might conflict with the First Amendment: the stations would voluntarily set their own limits. Straying from the standards would constitute a violation of the contract and result in the revocation of the license. Broadcasters wouldn't like this system but the airwaves don't belong to them.

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11/1/95

From: Michael Christopher John Bradford <mcb126@psu.edu>
To: A16.A16(kidstv)
Date: 9/16/95 5:16am
Subject: U.S.News&WR Commentary

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

How can broadcaster's best fulfill the Children's Television Act?

One suggestion may be to have a working cooperative with teachers (not administrators) located within the region of the local broadcast to obtain constant input as to the educational needs of the children, and what types of programs they (teachers) actually would like to see. Some schools districts support the use of educational T.V. inside of the classroom as well (a type of captive audience).

Good luck!

Mike Bradford

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From: Muhammed Iqbal <0002027817@mcimail.com>
To: fcc <kidstv@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/17/95 11:03pm
Subject: kids tv

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

-- [From: Muhammad S. Iqbal * EMC.Ver #2.3] --

September 17, 1995

Dear Sir or Madam,

In response to the article written in U.S. News & World Report magazine dated Sept. 11, 1995. I feel that the government should intervene to some extent as to how the Children's Television Act should be interpreted. The Federal Communications Commission should regulate what shows are to be shown at certain times. Shows with sex or violence should be shown at later times.

I think educational shows like "Beakman's World" and "Bill Nye, the Science Guy" are successful, because children like to learn in a fun way. If more educational shows were shown in a format that provides humor while educating at the same time, it would benefit children greatly.

I also feel that cable stations like the Disney Channel or Nickelodeon are educational, but everyone doesn't have access to them. Everyone should have the right to educational television.

Sincerely,
Rukhsana Iqbal

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9/14/95

Office of the Secretary
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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RZ: "MM Docket 93-48"

Dear Sirs:

As a mother of two toddlers,
I'm very concerned with the
programs available to my children.

I urge you to increase the
amount of children's educational
programs.

Thank you,
Mary Trystick Bell

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Federal Communication Commission
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington DC 20554

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9/12/95

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Dear Communication Commission:

I am writing to voice my concerns about television programming for children. I feel this to be a very important issue. Children watch TV. It is crucial that there be something of value for them to see ie. learn. Children memorize what they see. Many families now rent movies instead of watching network television. Part of the reason is that parents can preview what their children watch or at least the ratings give us a guideline. Network television has no guidelines at all.

Network television is a free for all of killing, gory depiction and questionable values. As our children get older (they are now 5 and 7) I want there to be something we as a family can watch together. Not necessarily sugary sweet but palatable for children and adults. It can be difficult to find anything that is not shocking for them to see.

Murder is not appropriate entertainment. I also don't feel the need for showing kids how to back talk and sass teachers and parents. Look at the line-up for any evening, is there any wonder crime has gone up when this is what we have fed our children's minds with? Tune in any Saturday morning to see what themes cartoons run with. It is not innocuous. Raising our children on plots of robbery, murder, sex, and attitude is not something our family chooses to do, yet we are penalized from watching TV until after the kids are in bed because we choose not to expose our kids to such things. They don't have the ability to separate out this "entertainment" from reality. I pity the children whose parents are not as discretionary. This portrayal becomes their reality. I feel that not only should there be more children's programming available but that there needs to be a way that we as parents can tell right away what we are in for. Color -code for concepts or mature themes. Maybe only allowing "pink" shows on until 8:30 pm. We have not been able to trust network television to help. Public television is good but much of the programming is for the Sesame Street set. The science shows are really good for kids to use their thinking skills. Surely the writers have not used up all the ideas they have on helping kids cope while parents are at work. What about music and art for kids? Teach them some basic concepts. We don't need more things to frighten kids today there is already plenty of that in the world.

Please give our kids some decent television because as I said before,
CHILDREN WATCH TV...

Thank-you for your time. I have been looking for the addresses of Network presidents to voice my concerns. Please notify me if you could help.

Laurie Sampson

Laurie Sampson
4508 N.E. 115 St.

Vancouver, WA.

98686

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September 14, 1995

FCC

Office of the Secretary
1719 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: MM Docket 93-48

Dear Sir or Madam:

We urge you to impose stricter regulations on TV programming containing sex and violence especially during prime time hours

As parents of young children we find ourselves monitoring most every program they view. We ourselves are sick of all the violence, sex and inappropriate language which has permeated our broadcasting system.

We need more programs like "Touched by an Angel" and "Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman" Shows which support the family and encourage morals and values

Most every family throughout this country have TV's in their homes, what a wonderful educational tool. Every network should be required to take advantage of this tool and utilize it for the benefit of families — not to promote the decay of the family through sex and violence.

Please hear our plea. The power to change TV programming and to make a difference is what should be considered "entertainment" is in your hands.

Sincerely,

Mr. & Mrs Chris Sailsbury
17321 S.W. 87 CT
Miami FL 33157
(305) 255-4080

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KANSAS CITY

MEREDITH CORPORATION

JOHN C. ROSE
VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER

September 13, 1995

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Secretary:

I wish to add my voice to that of most broadcasters who oppose additional regulations in the area of children's television programming (MM Docket No. 93-48). The Children's Television Act and current FCC regulations, combined with the cooperation of the broadcast community, are already effectively increasing the amount of quality children's programming. The current rules are understood and accepted by broadcasters and there is no need for change.

I also wish to state my opposition to quotas in any form. Quotas, obviously, are no guarantee of quality and many would argue they actually have the opposite effect in that they tend to diminish commitments to quality children's program. Quotas also tend to establish a maximum effort, not a minimum one.

In lieu of considering new rules about "programs," the Commission should instead place more emphasis on short segment programming for children. Broadcasters engaged in short-form children's issues should receive credit for those efforts and be encouraged to expand those formats.

Again, I feel television broadcasters are doing an increasingly effective job of developing and presenting quality children's programs and I urge the Commission to avoid any new rules at this time.

Sincerely,

John C. Rose

JCR:gr
cc: File

Chairman Reed Hundt
Commissioner James Quello, Commissioner Andrew Barrett
Commissioner Susan Ness, Commissioner Rachelle Chong
National Association of Broadcasters

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POST OFFICE BOX 5555
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64109-0155
913 677 5555
FAX 913 677 7109



MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF NASSAU COUNTY, INC.

September 13, 1995

MM DOCKET 93-48

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

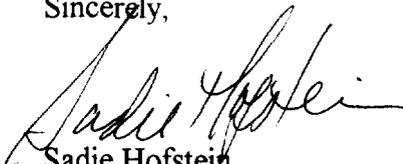
In response to the Commission's request for feedback on ways to improve television programming offered to children, we take issue with the proliferation of violence and negative stigma, especially about people with mental illnesses, depicted in both children's and mainstream programming. For example, people with mental illness are often archaically referred to as "nuts" or "crazies" and shown as violent, when in fact only a very small percentage of that population tend towards violence, and by no means as high a percentage as the community at large

Television viewing brings significant changes to a child's life. It influences personality development, interpersonal relationships and learning experiences. As a dynamic tool, it has the power to emphasize or diminish sensitivities in areas where children are especially vulnerable, e.g., exposure to violence, stereotyping and stigmatization.

Unfortunately television has become one of the primary ways children investigate the world. They compare their lives with the external world represented on the screen that most indiscriminately watch. Desensitization to violence or exposure to negative stigmas are givens. Kids re-create the behavior that is modeled for them, sometimes with horrific outcomes.

We believe that television viewing is a type of rehearsal for adult roles and reactions. Children imitate the behavior, attitudes and language they see. That is why programs that may get high ratings, but depict violence or laughter at the expense of others are damaging. We ask that the developers and writers, as well as producers and advertisers take a serious look at what their characters are saying and doing. Television is one of our most useful preoccupations.

Sincerely,


Sadie Hofstein

Executive Director

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Radio and Television

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Richard Warsinske
Vice President
General Manager, KOMO-TV

September 14, 1995

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington DC 20554

Dear Mr/Ms. Secretary: **re: MM Docket #93-48**

I am writing to voice our opposition concerning the possible numerical quotas for educational and informational children's programming. The Act and the current FCC rules, as they exist, are already working to increase this programming, new rules are not needed.

KOMO, and all broadcasters, know the definition of educational and informational children's programming and have, on their own, significantly increased children's educational programming in response to the Children's Television Act. We also realize that short segment programming is extremely important for kids, and should receive credit.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Warsinske

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ICC
Office of the Secretary
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington DC 20554

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RM Docket 93-48

Re: Increase in Educational TV.

To whom it may concern:

As a mother of two toddlers, I am very preoccupied with the amount of violence on TV, especially on prime time. The focus should be in the increase of educational TV and the decrease in sex, violence and vulgar language. If this doesn't stop soon you will have a lot of prisons to build in the future when our toddlers are imitating what they see on TV.

Thank you in advance

Hadeleine Volun

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Peter A. Volum
16980 SW 83rd Court
Miami, FL 33186

September 14, 1995

FCC
Office of the Secretary
1919 M St., NW
Washington DC 20554

MM Docket 93-48

Re: Quality of Television

Dear Sirs:

It is sad that the United States which leads the world in television programming "quantity" holds the last place in programming "quality"

The reason for this is due to mainly to the inferior quality of children programs.

In order of priority we need:

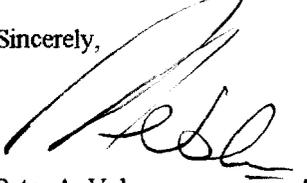
- 1. Less violence in shows that target children.*
- 2. More educational content in shows for kids.*
- 3. Better quality programming overall (i.e., use of correct grammar).*

We already have enough generations of violence-prone, undereducated, unimaginative and unproductive youth in the making. The older are already overcrowding our jails

Television is the best tool that exists to either educate or brainwash our youth.

Isn't it about time we started to learn from our mistakes? Let's put some VISION into TV NOW!

Sincerely,



Peter A. Volum

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FCC
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC

20554

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RE: MM DOCKET 93-48

As a concerned parent, I urge you to
petition for increased educational
programs on television.

Sincerely,

Janet Mills Nottro
710 Sevilla Ave
Coral Gables, FL

33134

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1919 M St, N.W.
WASH DC 20554

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MM Docket 93-48

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RE: INCREASE IN CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL T.V.

IT is imperative that we increase^{educational} time, especially during prime time, for our children. Our children are the future of this country. They are affected by the negativity they view from this media.

Please stop and think how destructive T.V. is at this point. We need to nurture and develop these young and impressionable minds.

Member of Smith Alondra Pre-School PTA.

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Ellen P. Firsching
PO Box 184
Cape May Point, NJ 08212
609-884-0286

September 9, 1995

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC, 200554

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Gentlemen:

As per a recent article in US NEWS & WORLD REPORT, herewith submit my opinion as to how broadcasters can be fulfill the Children's Television Act:

1) They should first of all take a hint from the quality of TV productions like "Nickelodeon." Time and again, in conversations with other adults ... as well as children ... I hear the same appreciation for the "golden oldies" of early TV. Why? Because it's not all Snow White and Cinderella material, just real-life stuff performed with good sense, judgment and "class." (A good word "class." Too bad national television has all but closed its doors to it these last 15 to 20 years.)

2) They should ask themselves a few hard questions such as:

a) Does their material have any other value besides just entertainment? Is there a "message" (a dirty word, I know) to be learned, i.e., patriotism, love of family, respect for the rights of others, etc.

b) Does evil triumph? If so, are the consequences clearly shown for children to grasp? (I personally am appalled at the number of shows that glorify sex outside of marriage but blissfully neglect to show the shock and misery of unwanted pregnancies, terminated relationships, etc., etc.)

c) Would the writers/producers/network executives/sponsors be willing to expose their productions first to their own kids, spouses, parents ... without benefit of preliminary indoctrination ... before its release to the general public?

3) This week I learned that two different network executives - in unrelated interviews - confessed to having little, if any, knowledge of the psychological impact their work has on audiences. In light of this, I would suggest that broadcasters make it their business to avail themselves

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of the innumerable psychological studies concerning this critical influence on human behaviour. Having been raised in an earlier, more structured time, many of them protest that "they turned out all right" so why shouldn't the kids of today do likewise? Unfortunately, America of the '90s - with its breakdown of solid family structures and values - is a whole new ballgame.

In the event that such an educational exercise proves incompatible with our broadcasters' need for creative freedom, perhaps the government - in the public interest - should make it mandatory. Sounds ridiculous? No more ridiculous than the \$500,000 the Environmental Protection Agency is spending to measure the methane released when cows burp!

In my opinion, television in the U.S. today is a national disgrace - not only because of the serious damage it's doing to our children's souls and bodies, but because the plethora of inane material foisted on the viewing public as "entertainment" is simply an insult to any thinking person's intelligence.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my thoughts on this extremely important matter. I pray that we as a nation can, and will, do something soon to protect our most precious national resource - our children..

Sincerely,

Ellen P. Firsching
Ellen P. Firsching

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Sir,

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I am writing to you to urge you to broadcast more family entertainment shows on television. Children of the 90's deserve the same clean entertainment as children of the 50's, 60's + 70's. A child is a child. They do not need to have sex + violence to be entertained. My children are learning that going into a bed is an "okay" way to show someone that you like them. They do not know, yet, what happens in the bed, but they will learn way too soon. Where have our values gone? The innocence of children is such a precious thing. Why do we need to show things on television that destroys that innocence? When good shows such as Cresty and Touched by an Angel are aired, they are soon pulled off the air. Little by little we have made bad things acceptable.

I am only one parent, but I beg you, for my children's sake, to entertain them and let them laugh at shows that appropriate for their minds. Television today has a strong influence on all of us today. Take some pride in the influence you have on our children. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Toni Scheeter

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M M Docket 93-418

September 11, 1995
4391 Clearwood Drive
Moorpark, Ca. 39021

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Jonathan Robert Panossian and I am thirteen years old. I am writing to you today to give you my opinion of what television has done to our nation.

I have heard of people that watch four to five hours of television a day. These people revere television. Everyday they would watch television. They would still watch the reruns that they had seen seven or eight times already. Once they went inside their house, they would not come out until the next morning. I know a few of these people. Television changed their lives. They would receive 4.0's, but the way they acted was disgusting. They were always stubborn and would always get the last word. I am just glad I am not one of these people.

I once watched a television show that was didactic and interesting. The show's name was called "Pirates". The show was about a pirate and they gave a biography about them. Those are some of the television shows I would like to see. I rarely see any them today. Some of the shows that I see have no point. They are exciting, but they aren't productive in any way.

My opinion of television today is that it is a virulent addicting disease. but is capricious when attacked in the right way.

I am glad that the FCC has been able to have heard my opinion. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Robert Panossian

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"MM Docket 93-48 "

11851 Maplecrest St.
Moorpark, CA 93021
September 11, 1995

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whomever This May Concern:

I am responding to your request for input about educational programs on TV. My name is Nicholas Aiwazian. I am 13 years old and frequently watch television.

Right now the only educational programs of which I am aware are on the Learning Channel and the Discovery Channel. I believe that there should be more mentally stimulating programs on some of the more popular stations. These shows should be advertised on TV so that people will know that they exist and educators should be informed of the times and dates of these programs.

My Mom doesn't let me watch too much TV because she claims that it "turns your brain to mush-mush." I feel that if more educational programs were on TV then kids would be allowed to watch TV for a longer amount of time. This would make advertising on TV even more powerful. In conclusion more educational programs should be shown on TV, and they should be somewhat interesting rather than a boring lesson that shows no creativity.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Aiwazian

Nicholas Aiwazian

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M M Docket
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To whom it may concern,

It was recently brought to my attention by a teacher that you were looking for comments on the current television shows. Well, to be perfectly honest, most of them need major improvements.

Nowadays, you can hardly find any educational programs. A few days ago I had just gotten home and was looking for an enriching program and in the T.V. guide I found one, only then to find that my cable station did not carry that particular channel. Many channels do not offer programs that have education tied into them, or if they do they are on a preschool level. As an eighth grade student I can tell you that I don't need to learn how to say my A-B-C's.

Some wonderful and actually quite interesting programs that I sometimes watch are: Where In The World Is Carmen SanDiego? The Homework Hotline, Ghostwriter, Next Step, Beyond 2000 and of course my all time favorite Beakman's World. Mainly all other programs that I can think of do not fit this title, except for quite a few adult shows. In my point of view if channels are going to have cartoons then they should be more like Captain Planet due to the fact that the cartoon offers several good ways to help save the planet while having enough action to keep younger children interested.

Some ways to get more people and chiefly children watching these programs are: Have commercials about them during "The Cartoon Hours", Have more shows to offer especially during 5:00PM-9:00PM, or the prime times during

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