

Dear FCC:

I am absolutely shocked to learn that you are considering dropping the current broadcast decency standards that ban explicit profanity and "non-sexual" nudity. Please tell me why you would even consider doing such a thing?! The standard of modesty and morality on television has already declined to such an all-time low that there is hardly anything that's suitable for watching anymore - not even for mature adults, much less our children!

Vulgar language and nudity do absolutely NOTHING to enhance or improve the quality of our TV programming (or movies), and the growing desire of many television producers to want to use such things only demonstrates their severely limited skills, and their total inability to create good, quality entertainment without resorting to the filming of garbage. Constant exposure to language, violence, and nudity ONLY serves to make us numb to such things in our own lives - to the point where the bloody body of a dying person on a sidewalk wouldn't even shock us anymore. This is an extreme tragedy as it is, and your lowering the standards on our entertainment will only make this problem far more severe and obvious. Worse yet, the thought of growing numbers of CHILDREN having easier access to such immoral displays will be far from good for our families, or for society as a whole!

While I understand that "opinions vary" regarding what should be watched and enjoyed on TV, there is absolutely nothing to be gained from having more immoral behavior permitted in our television programs - and, in fact, there is MUCH damage likely to be done by doing so. We have already had to suffer the loss of the vast majority of FAMILY-FRIENDLY programs being removed from TV in preference for programs that make so-called "housewives" look like whores, criminals look like heroes, etc.

PLEASE don't make this situation any worse than it already is by permitting our televisions to be used to broadcast absolute smut. Adults who prefer such entertainment can already access this anytime they like via movie rental stores and the internet. The vast majority of adults, though, I believe desire something much better, and at least slightly more virtuous. I know that I do - for the sake of myself, my wife, my children, and everyone else whom I respect and love. Entertainment is always more enjoyable when it EDIFIES, as well as entertains.

Again, I ask you to PLEASE reconsider this decision, and to MAINTAIN (at least!) the current standard of morality for our television programming. If anything, I would suggest that the "bar" for purity standards should be RAISED, not lowered! But, given the current situation, I at least wanted to voice my opinion and conviction about this, and to plead for you to make wise decisions regarding the future of our television programming. Please remember - the decisions that you make in this matter will affect the entertainment (and resulting thinking, and perhaps even behavior) of millions of Americans, including children. Your re-evaluation of this decision will be most appreciated.

Very sincerely,  
Rev. Josh Dear  
Muskegon, MI