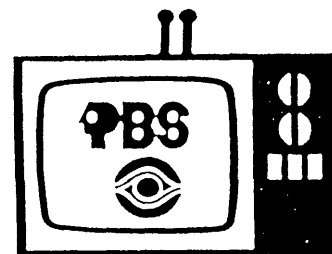


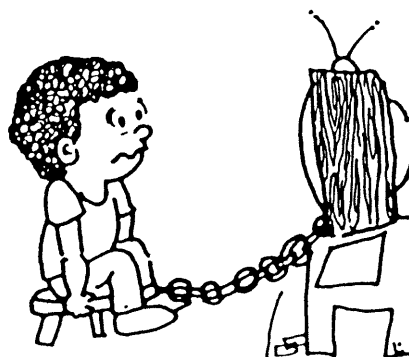
TV: Monster, Master or Modern Marvel?



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- 1A. INTRODUCTION

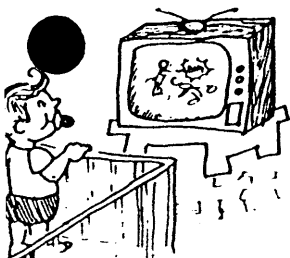
Over 180 million Americans (about 69 percent of the population) have TV sets in their homes. This figure includes 18 million viewers in the two-to-five age group and 25 million in the six-to-eleven age span, and means that over 43 million preschoolers and gradeschoolers in the United States watch television. By the time the average American has reached the age of eighteen, he has amassed an estimated 12-15,000 hours of TV viewing. If this pattern is followed until age sixty-five, a person will have spent a total of nine years sitting before a TV set. If a person went to Sunday school every Sunday during these years, he would have spent the equal of only four months studying the Bible! (Krutza & Di Cicco, Facing the Issues - 4 Contemporary Discussion Series. p. 72)

- 2A. THE DISTINCTIVENESS OF TELEVISION

- 1b. Relaying of information and innovations:

What Hoke postulates as a positive contribution to the education of children is true for adults as well:

". . . There are also several powerful positive effects of the electric education television provides. First, it provides a greatly enlarged window on the world than was previously available for young children. Through world news coverage, on-the-spot reporting of unusual events and natural phenomena, and highly refined photographic techniques, television has opened up vast vistas of knowledge and scientific technology. A video-literate child of the seventies has been privileged to see village life in Africa, cultural exchange programs with Japan and China, entertainment from Europe, animal life in the jungles of Africa, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions from the South Pacific and childbirth in the United States. He or she has seen man

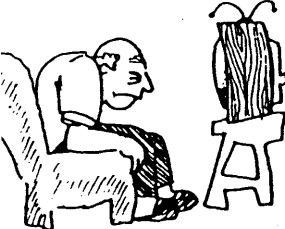


walk on the moon, poverty in Biafra and Bangladesh, political violence in Italy, ice skating in Moscow, sabotage in Munich and thriller commando raids at Antebbe."(sic) (Hoke, Voices, p. 14)

2b. Relaxing the institutionalized and incapacitated:

Tests in mental institutions have indicated that television takes the patient's mind off himself and temporarily permits him to lead a normal life. Less sedatives are needed. Laughter has always been recognized by medics as the vital means by which needed hormones in the body are stimulated to flow. Television can pleasantly induce people to replace inordinate self-concern with altruistic thoughts about the world and others. (Kober, Biblical Ethics and Television, unpublished, pp. 3-4)

3b. Recreation for the infirm and impotent:



Through the introduction of some diversional pleasure into the pedantic routine of life, man finds inward relief from the tensions of the day. Relaxation is sort of an escape valve in the heart of man, releasing pent-up emotions and fears through fun and laughter. Through its almost unbelievable efficiency, television can reach into the one-room apartment of the lonely secretary as she passes the hours of the evening longing for companionship. Or it can stand beside the bed of one who is imprisoned by physical infirmities and direct his mind away from present problems. (Edward J. Carnell, Television--Servant or Master? pp. 29-31)

4b. Reflector of culture and sports:

Television provides an enormous amount of high quality entertainment for children and adults alike. While sitting on the family floor young children can experience the thrill of sitting front row at Carnegie Hall to hear Beverly Sills, the Boston Pops, Leonard Bernstein conducting noted orchestras, the Metropolitan opera, watch the saga of "Roots," enjoy the best of European circuses, learn from the finest performances of world-class athletes in gymnastics, track and field and winter sports. Television can enrich the vicarious experience of youngsters in most areas of the fine and performing arts, including drama, musicals, orchestra, opera and special concerts. (Hoke, Voices, p. 14)

Carnell also notes the immense contribution that television makes in the area of culture:

With its electronic, magic wand, television can transform the forgotten man or woman, Cinderella-like, into a jeweled prince or princess in the world of imagination. Ready to respond to every beck and call of the viewer are the nation's highest paid musicians, comedians, dramatists, composers, operatic stars, and showmen, asking nothing for their services beyond the cost of the electricity required to spark the television instrument itself. While only the rich previously were world wanderers, learning the fecundity of the earth's treasures, now even the poorest of men in TV areas can be whisked away from their parlor to the ringside

of a world's championship tennis match or be borne on an elephant's back through the mysterious, inner recesses of fabulous India. In a television age, a war veteran, physically confined as a paraplegic, may now compete in world perspective with the wealthiest, most ambitious globe-trotter. If a thing can be seen with the eyes, television can relay it to the home. (Carnell, Television--Servant or Master, p. 51)

3A. THE DEFENSE OF TELEVISION

1b. The Concern for Censorship:

The networks complain that the Moral Majority and other groups would like to censure television in some of its presentations because of its over-emphasis on violence and sex. Television producers argue that they are presenting "life as it is." However, the deceitful treatment which they give even in documentaries to major theme leaves out normally a balanced presentation and gives sympathetic treatment to most immoral behavior, such as unchastity, lesbianism and homosexuality. Cole rightly observes concerning television's claim that they are not exploiting sex but merely exploring it:

That kind of talk deceives only those who do not know God. Paul would probably include it in his list of "doctrines of demons" (1 Timothy 4:1). Much of what the industry (i.e., its script writers, producers, directors, etal.) defends as "art," Paul would invariably term "filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting" (Ephesians 5:4). He would warn us as Christians not to listen to it, and certainly not to watch it dramatized, lest our minds be corrupted by it (2 Corinthians 11:3). That would probably be Paul's first objection to exposure to such things; they defile the mind. They insinuate images that are not easily effaced by the mind. (Cole, Christian Perspectives on Controversial Issues, p. 94)

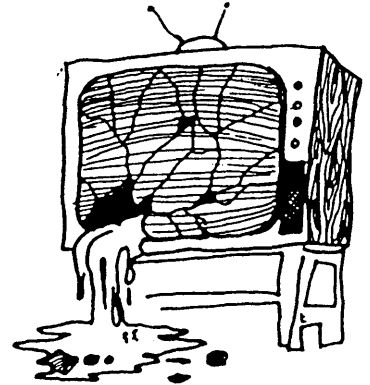
The believer has every right to be concerned about television programs.

Under our system, the interests of the public are dominant. The commercial needs of licensed broadcasters and advertisers must be integrated into those of the public. Hence, individual citizens and the communities they compose owe a duty to themselves and their peers to take an active part in the scope and quality of the television service which stations and networks provide and which, undoubtedly, has a vast impact on their lives and the lives of their children. Nor need the public feel that in taking a hand in broadcasting they are unduly interfering in the private business affairs of others. On the contrary, their interest in programming is direct and their responsibilities important. They are the owners of the channels of television--indeed of all broadcasting. (Brown, Keeping Your Eye On Television, p. 8)

2b. The Concern for the First Amendment:

Freedom of speech as guaranteed by the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights does not permit just anything, as Cole aptly notes:

The complaint by television people that pressure on advertisers infringes on their right to make the kind of movies they want to rings hollow. It is as if General Motors were to protest that Ralph Nader's campaign to force GM to redesign the Corvair or remove it from production violated their right to make an unsafe car. This kind of complaint raises questions about the very nature of freedom, and certainly about its extent. If nobody is free to shout "Fire!" in a crowded theater, and if nobody is free to manufacture an unsafe car, why should anybody be free to make morally pernicious movies? Hardly anyone who thinks seriously about it can deny that the framers of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights did not foresee the kinds of freedom claimed by diverse groups in our times. If they had anticipated real abuse of freedom, they might have incorporated into their work a few lines from the first epistle of Peter. Says Peter, "Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bondslaves of God. Honor all men; love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king" (1 Peter 2:16-17). (Cole, p. 97)



4A. THE DANGERS OF TELEVISION

1b. Television Distorts Reality:

Television viewing undercuts learning. Until the television era a young child entered the world of fantasy primarily by way of stories told or read from a book. But rarely did such literary experiences take up a significant proportion of a child's waking time; an hour or so a day was more time than most children spent caught up in the imagination of others. Now by means of television, very young children enter and spend sizable portions of their waking time in a secondary world of make-believe people and intangible things, unaccompanied, in too many cases, by an adult guide or comforter. The nature of the two experiences is different, and that difference significantly affects the impact of the material taken in. Television confuses reality and fantasy. As a young child's "early window," television is a remarkable invention that is clearly changing everybody's world. Dorothy Cohen, professor of child development at Bank Street College of Education, highlights the fact that "children have difficulty distinguishing between program content and commercials; distinguishing relevant for irrelevant detail; and figuring the central informational themes of a program." (Hoke, p. 13)

1 John 1:7 -"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Romans 12:2 -"An be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 14:15 -"The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going."

2b. Television Dispenses a Worldly Philosophy:

In an article, "Is TV Anti-Christian?" The National Federation for Decency shows how the philosophy of the producers and script writers effects the programs:

In one 12-week prime-time period in Fall 1982 TV showed:

- 2,149 acts of violence
- 915 uses of profanity
- 2,019 scenes of sex

And 80% of the allusions to sexual intercourse in prime time TV last year were depicted as being outside marriage.

Still, TV isn't guilty of anti-Christian bias just by what it shows. But also by what it fails to show.

Think about that for a moment.

When was the last time you saw on TV a family say "Grace" before meals? Or when was the last time you saw a family get into the car on Sunday morning and drive to church?

This is all part of the anti-Christian bias the TV networks are guilty of. In fact, ...

... the censorship against Christians by network TV is so complete that not one continuing series set in a modern setting has a single person who is identified as a Christian.

A recent study by S. Robert Lichter and Stanley Rothman shows who's behind TV's anti-Christian bias. They spent an hour with each of 104 members of "the cream of TV's creative community" -- writers, producers, network officials in charge of programming, and others. Here's what they found:

- Only 7% of them attend church regularly while 93% said they never attend church or seldom do.
- And yet, 25% were raised in some Protestant faith, 12% were raised Catholic and 59% were raised in the Jewish faith.
- Only 5% strongly agree that homosexuality is wrong.
- Only 16% strongly agree that adultery is wrong.
- "Moreover," the authors wrote, "... (TV's creators) seek to move their audience toward their own vision of the good society."
- Further, these people felt religious leaders should have the least influence on society, ranking only slightly above the military.

Ben Stein, who wrote "The View from Sunset Boulevard", described these people this way:

"By definition, the people who write TV shows and produce them are not at all devout."

That's the picture.

The illustration of television's perversion of Christianity must suffice:

"THE DAY CHRIST DIED" 3/26/83

When CBS decided to air "THE DAY CHRIST DIED", they selected a self-professed agnostic to write the script. What he wrote so infuriated the book's author, Jim Bishop that Bishop refused CBS permission to use his name as part of the promotion for the made-for-TV-movie.

CBS presented this as an Easter special. And here's what Peter J. Boyer, television writer for the Associated Press, wrote about the show: "And now comes 'THE DAY CHRIST DIED,' a CBS film that seems almost calculated to stir a brouhaha. To say that 'THE DAY CHRIST DIED' departs from the traditional telling of the Easter story is to brazenly understate the matter. This isn't a religious story, it's a political intrigue caper. . . . Judas is no cheap traitor here, selling his Lord for 30 pieces of silver. Indeed, Judas Iscariot, the man whose name came to mean treachery itself, was a political activist whose ideals prompted his actions. *If anything, this movie suggests, Christ betrayed Judas . . . Judas, you see, was a dedicated patriot who'd been sold out by his leader.*"

1 Thessalonians 5:21,22

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Abstain from all appearance of evil.

3b. Television Dominates Personal Life:

In many cases, television has a habit-forming influence and more than that, it holds a real power of enslavement over individuals. Their whole lives are structured around the watching of television or at least the viewing of specific programs. Television viewing for them becomes nothing short of addiction.

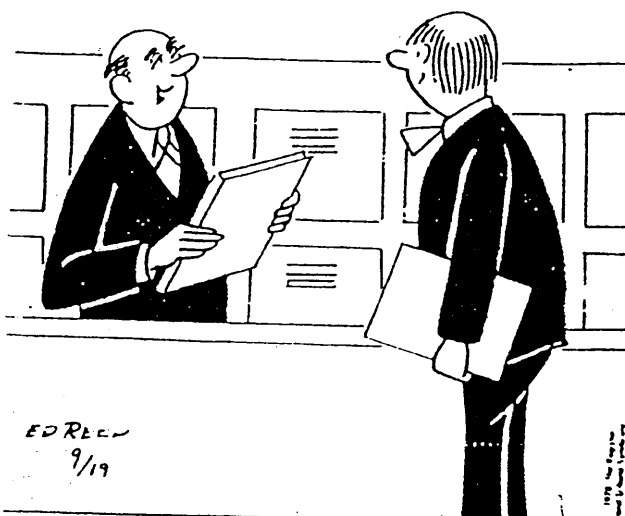
Ephesians 5:3,4

But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

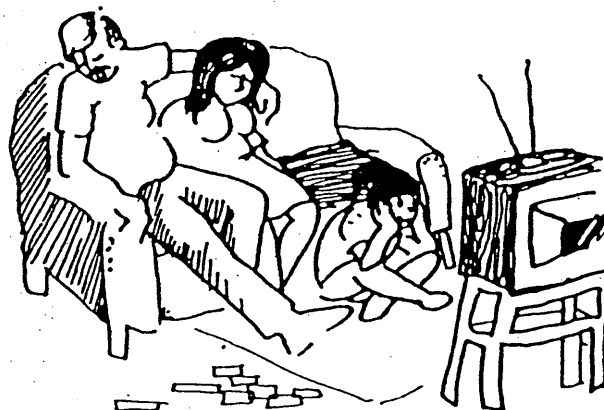
OFF THE RECORD

S-AGENCY ---INC.



ED REED
9/19

"Your TV script is perfect. Never have I read anything so morbidly filthy and violent."



1 Corinthians 6:12

All things are lawful unto me, but
all things are not expedient:
all things are lawful for me, but
I will not be brought under the
power of any.

4b. Television Destroys Valuable Time:

An ethical principle especially appropriate for this age is found in Colossians 4:5: "Redeeming the time." The frenzied pace which men are beckoned to follow today is exasperating. It becomes the Christian's responsibility to take time to be holy. But the voracious appetite of TV to gobble up every spare moment makes this exceedingly complex. It may encourage televiewers to forfeit their privileges of prayer and fellowship with God by jamming their time with entertainment.

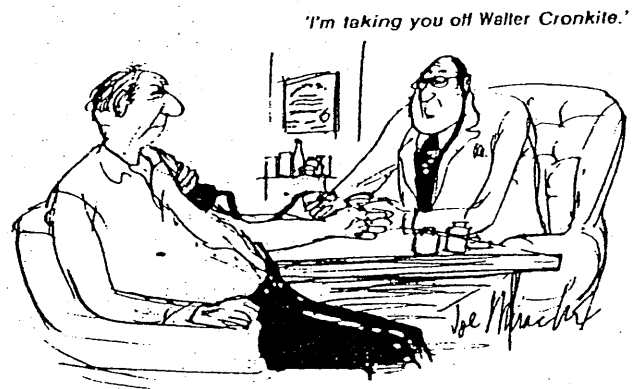
Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

5b. Television Distracts From Corporate Worship:

Carnell saw the danger of television viewing prophetically:

10. *Sunday television.* The ordinary means by which God has been pleased to increase a fellowship in the righteous, both with Himself and with each other, is through the established church, with its rightful preaching of the gospel and the administration of the true sacraments. Television threatens even this security.

If the machinery of the television industry were to shut down on Sunday, and in so doing afford the nation an announced relief from its purveyance of bread, TV's threat to religious initiative would be lessened greatly. As it stands, however, Sunday is a video field day. TV follows the pattern set down by the rest of the entertainment world. The cinema looks to Sunday patronage as one of the most lucrative of the week. Likewise, radio men, realizing they have their largest potential audience on Sunday evening, block off their best talent for that time. In the recently publicized "Sunday night scramble," for example, in a desperate gamble to control Sunday evening air waves C.B.S. offered to N.B.C. talent the enticing bait of a mitigated federal income tax bill. On Sunday evening, therefore, radio men line up their most powerful entertainers in bloc formation. Announcers on give-away shows have half the nation anxiously hoping to make a fortune by simply answering the telephone.



Television, with its best eye on the Sunday multitudes, is bound to put its finest foot forward that day. Video will be a new menace to righteousness if it schedules telecasts designed to woo away the Sunday night church attendant from spiritual faithfulness. The children of light must take caution.

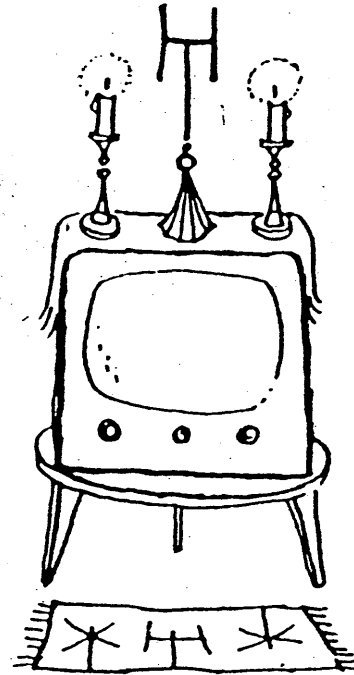
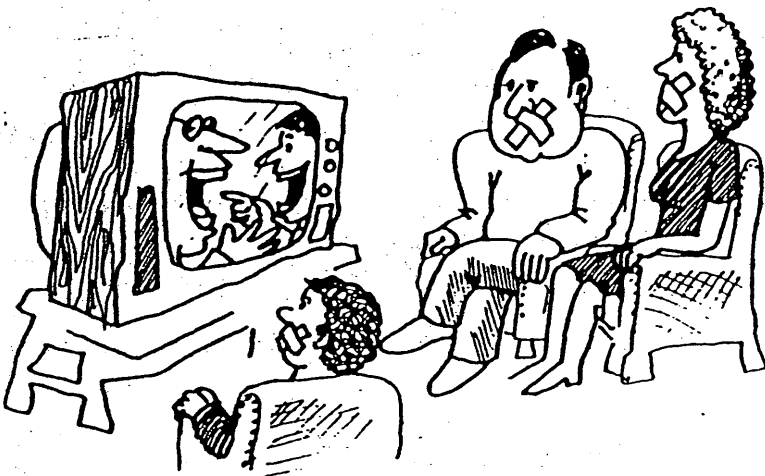
It must be made clear here, however, lest a premature misinterpretation result, that the Christian has as much right to watch television on Sunday as at any other time. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," and that includes Sunday television. There is no more sin entailed in Sabbath television than in hearing a symphony program over the radio or in walking through the park. Television is a sin on Sunday — or any other day — only when it becomes an occasion for one to break the law of God. The difficulty with video is that it may provide the nation with a few excuse for postponing righteousness. TV will make it all the more difficult to attend to the ordinary means of grace in the church.

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

6b. Television Disturbs Family Life;

Hoke makes the correct observation, underscored on every study on the subject of television that one of the greatest dangers of television is that of the destruction of family life;

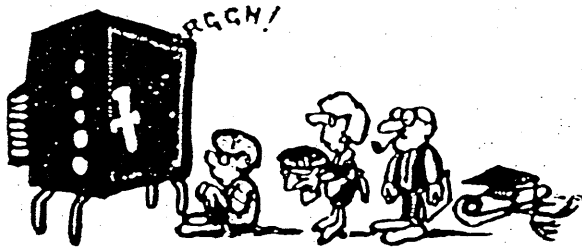


TELE-Gott

But more obviously damaging to family relationships is the elimination of opportunities to talk, and perhaps more important, to argue, between parents and children and brothers and sisters. Families frequently use television to avoid confronting their problems, problems that will not go away if they are ignored but will only fester and become less easily resolved as time passes. The child's early and increased television experiences decrease the opportunities for simple conversation between parents and children and will serve to dehumanize, mechanize, and make less real the relationships she or he encounters in life. Television has played an important role in the disintegration of the American family in its effect on family relationships, its facilitation of parental withdrawal from an active role in the socialization of their children, and in its replacement of family rituals and special events.

(Hoke, p. 13)

7b. Television Develops Juvenile Aggressiveness:



'One significant study showed that "it was not a boy's home life, not his school performance, not his family background, but the amount of TV violence he viewed at age 9 which was the single most important determinant of how aggressive he was 10 years later, at age 19".'

(TV Guide, June 14-20, 1975, p. 10)



These purveyors have found that violence attracts the greatest audience. producers and sponsors often reject the idea that they are responsible for the violence in our society. They say they are following the trends, not setting them. Violence often is a major theme of TV programming from children's cartoons to adult 10:30 p.m. movies.

The National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence reported in October 1969:

"The preponderance of the available evidence strongly suggests that violence in TV programs can and does have adverse effects upon audiences-particularly child audiences. Television enters powerfully into the learning process of children and teaches them a set of moral and social values about violence which are inconsistent with the standards of a civilized society.

"The child viewer is especially vulnerable to the influence of TV because he is still in the process of learning to discriminate between fantasy and reality," it was pointed out.

"What younger children see on TV is peculiarly 'real.' In the case of low-income youngsters who may not have access to the mitigating satisfaction of normal family life, the constantly available image of violence as an accepted way of achieving ends and handling difficult situations may result in a distorted, pathological view of society.

"The ever-welcoming accessibility of the TV set, in contrast to the limited availability of parents, is a significant factor in TV's influence on children," the Commission noted.

"The TV set is never too busy to talk to them and it never has to brush them aside while it does household chores. Unlike their preoccupied parents, TV seems to want their attention at any time and goes to considerable lengths to attract it. . . .Indeed, parents too often use the TV set as an abdication of their parental responsibility to instill proper values in their children."

Albert Bandura, Stanford University psychologist, lists the following as some of the immediate effects of television or movie violence:

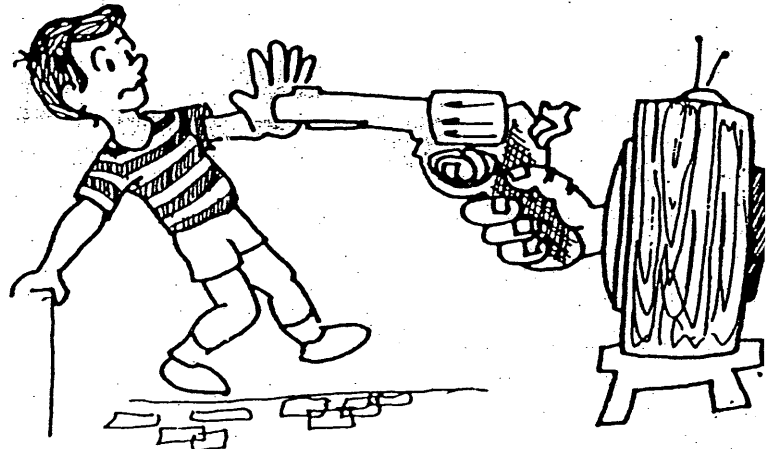
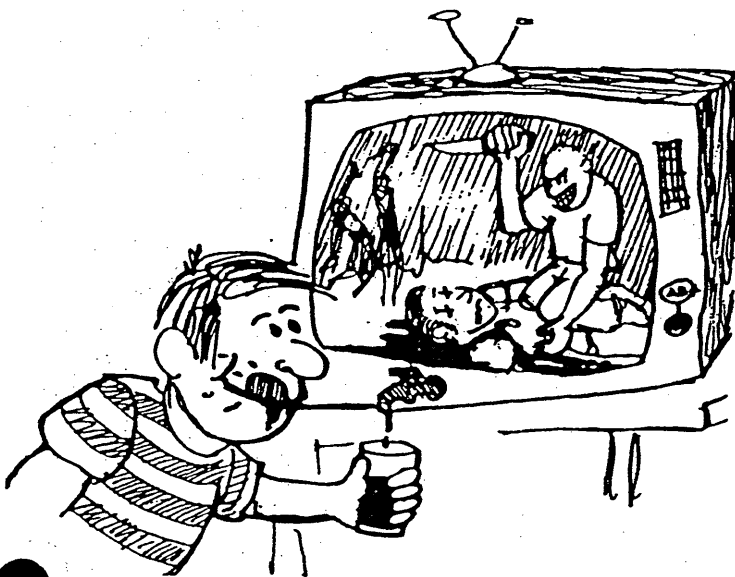
1. It reduces viewer "inhibitions against violent, aggressive behavior."
2. It teaches viewers "forms of aggression-that is, giving them information about how to attack someone else when the occasion arises."
3. The ethical ending, in which the villain gets his deserts, does not antidote the violence that gone before. It "may keep viewers from reproducing villainy right away, but it does not make them forget how to do it. The ethical ending is just a suppressor of violence, it does not erase."

(Krutza & Di Cicco, Facing the Issues--4 Contemporary Discussion Series, pp. 75-76)

In a major article in Reader's Digest, "TV Violence: The Shocking New Evidence," January 1983, the summary of research over the past decade is given. This research proves that violence is seriously damaging to the children. Research has reached four conclusions:

1. TV violence produces lasting and serious harm.
2. Those "action" cartoons on children's programs are decidedly damaging.
3. TV erodes inhibitions.
4. The sheer quantity of TV watching by youngsters increases hurtful behavior and poor academic performance.

"When the TV set is on it freezes everybody," says Cornell University psychologist Urie Bronfenbrenner. "Everything that used to go on between people-the games, the arguments, the emotional scenes out of which personality and ability develop-is stopped. When you turn on the TV, you turn off the process of making human beings human."



Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

8b. Television Disrupts the Learning Process:

1c. Television destroys personal initiative:

Carnell observes:

One has missed the full height of television's potentialities if he thinks that a narrow parallel between it and radio can be lined up. The difference between the two mediums is immense. Television appeals basically to the eye of man; and it takes time to watch something. Radio blotted up much of our time, but video much more. One could knit, work on a hobby, clean the house, wash his car, or even study geometry while listening to the radio. In TV, however, one is called upon to give his whole conscious self to the medium. In only the rarest of instances can anything of a constructive or vocational nature be accomplished while the television set is on. Television is much greedier than radio, therefore. (Carnell, pp. 125-126)

Curiously enough, television, which has a responsibility to entertain men, bids fair to be so efficient in its assignment that initiative in man may be choked to death. The more television does man's entertaining for him, the less he is bound to do for himself. Even the simple interruption of a telephone call - be it from one's pastor or the local butcher shop - is a resentment to an avid televiewer who is having others do his thinking for him. TV may make lazy men even lazier. (Carnell, p. 123)

2c. Television depresses culture:

The three major networks endeavor to produce programs that will appeal to the widest audience especially a prime time period as Cole noted, this sounds very nice and democratic:

The rub is, those three hundred Hollywood writers and producers who churn out the material you see on TV seem to make at least two assumptions that many find questionable: first, that the mental age of their viewers, including adults, is about ten. This probably explains the inane sit-coms in which creatures in various stages of arrested mental development mill about or babble what is supposed to be dialogue. Have you ever personally known anybody like the one-dimensional characters that people your television screen? (Cole, p. 98)

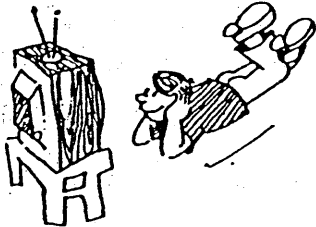
9b. Television Deadens Morality:

1c. Television glorifies violence:

2c. Television emphasizes sex:

The Christian needs to be reminded of the elevated view of sex and marriage in the Scriptures, in contrast to the degrading, demoralizing, degenerate view of sex as espoused by television:

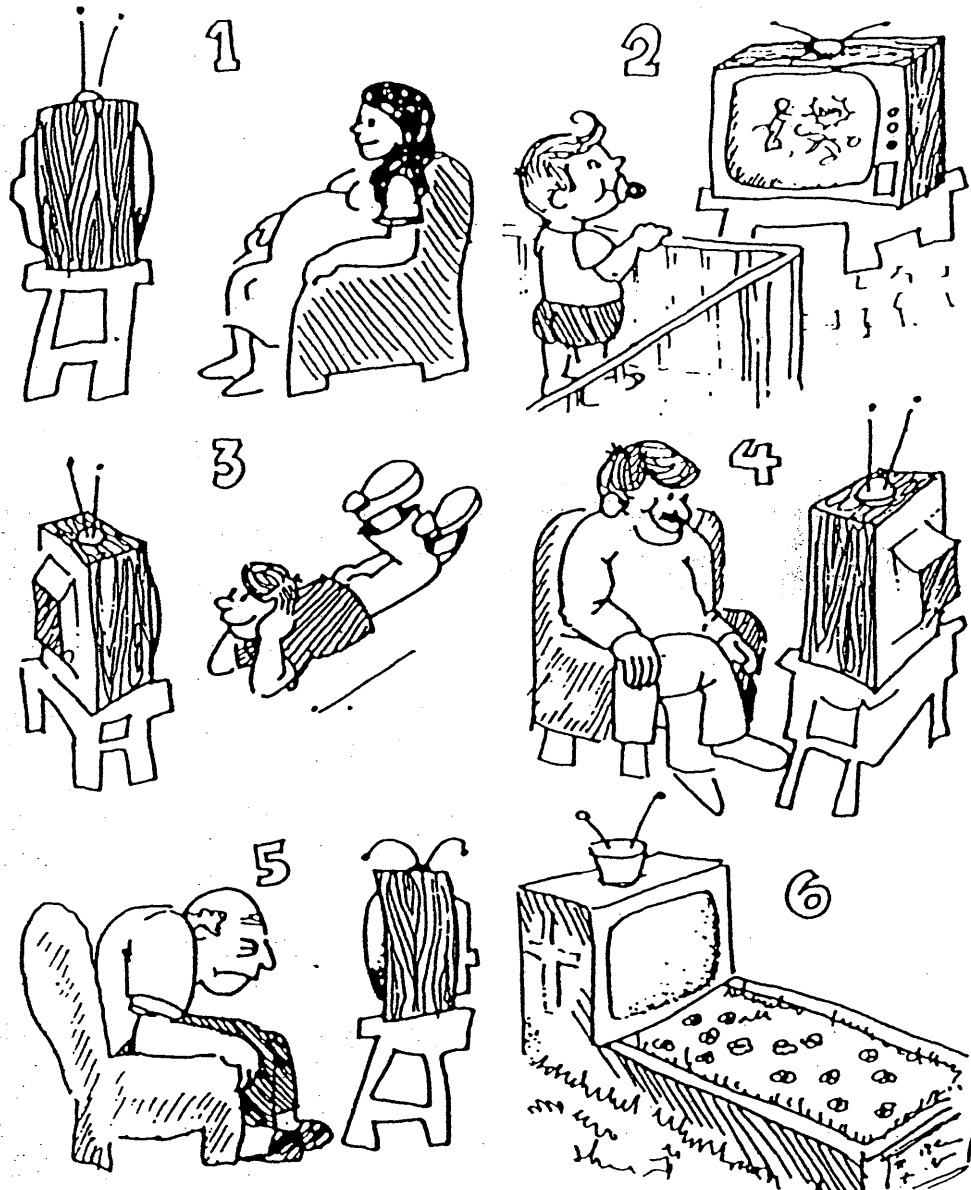
The Scriptures in no light way treat with the sin of unchastity. Adultery is included in the Ten Commandments. The later prophets warn that the wrath of God is pent up against those who defile their bodies.



In the New Testament Christ raises the sin of lust to the highest power by lodging it within the inner intentions of man himself. "I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (Matthew 5:28) The Apostle Paul says that no unrepenting "adulterers. . .will inherit the kingdom of God." (1 Corinthians 6:9-10) Perhaps there is no area of the Christian faith which is less appreciated by the natural man than the Bible's scathing indictment of unchastity. (Carnell, p. 140)

3c. Television engenders materialism:

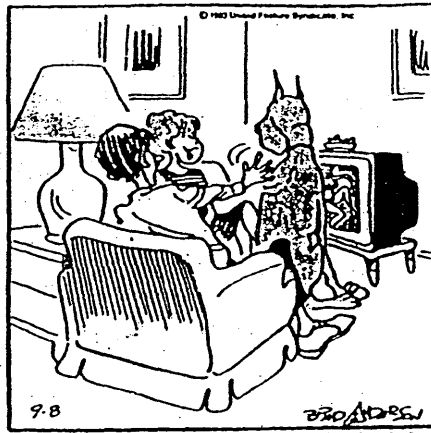
Television's main emphasis is not educational but commercial. The prime interest of the television industry is to sell goods through advertisement. Advertisement is geared to young children especially. Adults are also exposed to a barrage of enticing commercial purchases, which basically approach the materialistic side of man. There is no spiritual dimension in television but crass materialism is evident everywhere and part of the problem of our churches can be blamed on the inimicable influence of television.



5A. THE DEMANDS OF TELEVISION

1b. Personal Evaluation of the Programs:

MARMADUKE



"Good dog! He shouldn't be watching that kind of program, anyway."

2b. Personal Involvement with the Producers:

1c. Direct your complaints to the people:

The television industry probably worries more about 250 letters to advertisers than 10,000 letters to the network headquarters. Why? Because their money comes from advertisers who sponsor the shows. Advertisers pay plenty for the privilege of catching your eye and ear for a few seconds. They are willing to risk boring you or sending you to the kitchen for potato chips. But they are not willing to anger you, lest you refuse to buy their products. Hence, they are concerned when picketed, or merely threatened by a sizable group.

Is this kind of pressure legitimate? At least two considerations commend the method: first, pressure on advertisers is probably the only effective way to catch the attention of television executives. Second, three or four networks hold complete control of the airwaves. If you don't like what they produce, you have no alternative—except radio or, better yet, a good book. If you want to watch television, you are stuck with the same fare no matter which channel you tune in, unless, of course, you live in the viewing area of a Christian station.

(Cole, pp. 97-98)

Either you control your TV or your TV will control you. Use these questions to help you make decisions about TV viewing.

HELP FOR TELEVISION VIEWERS

BEFORE A PROGRAM

1. Will watching this program represent responsible Christian stewardship for me?
2. Why am I considering watching this program?
3. What has this program been like in the past?
4. Is this a good way to be informed or entertained?
5. Would watching this program together help or hurt my family?

DURING A PROGRAM

1. What moral values are promoted or undermined?
2. Is God's name profaned; is vulgar language used?
3. Is violence glorified; is sex exploited?
4. Are alcohol and other drugs glamorized or taken for granted?
5. Does this program make me more trusting or more suspicious of others?

AFTER A PROGRAM

1. Am I a better person for having watched this program?
2. Was this a program that encouraged morality or immorality?
3. Should I consider watching this program again; why or why not?
4. How can I use this experience to honor God and help others?
5. Should I communicate my convictions about this program to advertisers or television people?

"So each of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12)

2c. Disconnect the set:

Cole has come to the right conclusion:

I don't know whether write-in (letters to network executives and to advertisers), pickets, or boycotts will work. However, I know what will work; unplug the set, or turn it off when something objectionable is being aired. Turning it off may not stop the producers from producing mindless or salacious material, but it most certainly will keep you from exposure to it. And that-separation from what is evil-is precisely the path God intends for you (and me) to follow. (Cole, p. 99)

3c. Discard the television set?

Carnell argues much along the same line, but carries the reasoning farther:

If there are cases where it is felt that television's threats quite outbalance its promises and pleasures, and a decision is made to exclude the medium from the home altogether, others ought to respect these convictions. Some will doubtless choose total abstinence. But that is their own private concern. Each man must stand or fall before his own Master. After all, television is not the most important thing in the world. The greatest question is the heart's condition before God. In matters of television, let each man be thoroughly persuaded in his own mind.

A higher solution for the general Christian mind is to treat television in the same way that he would everything else in a mixed world. Because the entire universe is freighted with good and bad, a righteous individual will not expect perfection in it, but will, rather, extract the good and dedicate it to God, while spurning and shunning the evil. This, doubtless, will be the final attitude of the Christian mind when video is as universal as radio. Those who reject television on moral grounds will be as scarce in years to come as are those today who refuse to use radios. The argument of the enlightened Christian is that, since the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, anything-television included-can, and ought, to be received by man with thanksgiving. Television is a decided mixture. So, like the radio, automobile, magazine, or newspaper, it can be used to glorify either God or the flesh. The usage is controlled by the inner intentions of the user. TV is just another form of money. Money, according to the Bible, is not the root of all evil. No. It is the love of money which corrupts. Christianity teaches men to hold their money lightly, lest it become their god. So, it is the love, of television, not TV itself, which is our problem. What is to prevent a Christian from turning off the television set if the objectionable commences? This surely is a morally virtuous solution, for it is achieved by the inner strength of the individual himself rather than by such a paltry mechanical means as that of not having a set at all.

(Carnell, pp. 181-182)

1 Corinthians 9:24,25 - Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

4c. A Decalogue for the TV viewer:

1. Thou shalt not permit thy television set to come between thee and devotion to Christ and the church.
2. Thou shalt not cause it to become a craving image, demanding above its due in time and money.
3. Thou shalt carefully evaluate the programs and not permit the mind to become cluttered with base thoughts that the virtues of Christ and the presence of His Spirit are crowded out.
4. Thou shalt not prize any program of higher value than the prayer meeting or Sunday evening services.
5. Thou shalt seek in the programs a balanced diet of entertainment, information, education and inspiration.
6. Thou shalt be prompt to turn off the TV set upon arrival of company and turn it on only when it will be an aid to genuine hospitality.
7. Thou shalt not permit the television to crowd out family conversation and counseling, but use it for the mutual benefit of all members.
8. Thou shalt use its dramatic advertisement as opportunities to teach children what is wrong with the wrong and right with the right.
9. Thou shalt enlist the support of fellow Christians in expressing by mail disapproval of such sponsors and programs as oppose Christian concepts and convictions. ("Ten TV Commandments for Christians," Herald of Holiness, November 24, 1954, p. 9)

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*This list of advertisers is taken from *Television Awareness Training*, Ben Logan, ed., (New York: Media Action Research Center, 1977), p. 150.