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ASSIGNMENT

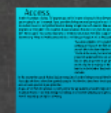
THE ISSUES CODES AND CONVENTIONS OF FACTUAL TV

The purpose of this assignment is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop skills for and knowledge of factual TV production.

UNDERSTANDING
THE CODES AND
CONVENTIONS



UNDERSTANDING
THE ISSUES



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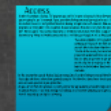
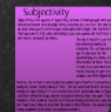
THE ISSUES CODES AND CONVENTIONS OF FACTUAL TV

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Accuracy

Accuracy has become an issue relating to factual programming for television. Accuracy is vital in factual TV this is important as it keeps a trust between the viewer as a viewer is much more likely to watch something with accurate facts and statistics than feeling like they are being lied to. If this trust is broken viewers will start to believe incorrect facts and will cause problems and issues with the production companies if information is found out to be incorrect.

An example of how accuracy is used in factual TV would be in archive footage and how it is stated, the quote below is from BBC editorial guidelines.

"When archive material is used to illustrate a current issue or event it must be clearly labeled if there is any risk of misleading the audience. We should also be alert to legal issues of, for example, defamation"

This becomes an issue to production companies as if a program is found not to be accurate and contain false information programs could be canceled or viewing figures could go down.

An example of how we see this issue of accuracy in reality TV is in the program The Only Way is Essex. As this show has some scenes set up purely for entertainment and not true to reality. Therefore to avoid a loss in views and deceiving their viewers they have to state that some scenes are set up

This is an issue as the audience are relying on the producer of the program to show them a reality as this is what they are expecting from a reality television program, therefore if something is not accurately portrayed this is then seen as deceiving the audience which will result in unhappy viewers. Therefore

programs like The only way is Essex have to state that some scenes are not accurate and are set up for entertainment purposes to otherwise the production companies will be accused of not being accurate and lying to the audience therefore resulting in less viewers.

Balance

A balance between side of an argument is important for factual TV in order to stop one side of and argument or one opinion being glorified therefore keeping everyone open minded.

This is becoming an issue as if programs of a factual manner has a focused one side other than a balance of different views, many people may not agree with these views therefore resulting in a loss of viewers. Normally towards the conclusion of a program the producers views and opinion will be shared and accepted.

This will become an issue specifically to the producers as if people feel that their views are not being catered to and shown therefore stopping watching the program which will mean the company will not get enough views and make a profit. Also in some extreme cases people may feel that their views are being discriminated against and that the program is bias. This could lead to future law suits which would result in the production company having to pay money therefore meaning that they make little if any profits.

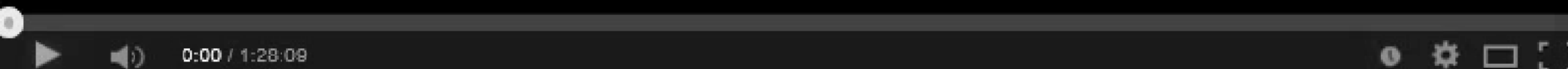


The clip to the left shows a section of the documentary Bronies a show about grown men obsessed with my little pony, this shows balance as we are given the views on Bronies from the people themselves between 0:00 and 1:44, we are also then presented with the views of other people through opportunity sampling on the street and news shows from 1:44-2:26.

By doing this it is not only giving us the opinions of people like us, this would not educate and show us how other people view situations and specific subjects therefore we are learning and also not just showing one thing which could lead to people believing one views as being the correct way to think.

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Impartiality

Impartiality will show both views and opinions equally not taking sides of either, it sets out just to present information and not sway any views towards the audience.

For this to become an issue a producer will be too focused on their own opinion, this may offend some viewers as they may feel that their views are being dismissed and are not worthy. This will then become an issue as people will feel like their views are being ignored therefore meaning a loss in views as people will be disinterested. This will therefore effect the production company as if people are not viewing their shows because they feel they are too one sided the viewing figures will go down and the program will not receive enough money to continue or make enough money to cover the funding of the project meaning that the whole project would have been a waste.



This clip from super sized vs Super skinny shows impartiality as it is showing both views and lives of large and small therefore meaning that neither one is completely objectified. This impartiality means that you are getting an insight into two peoples lives not just one therefore attracting a larger audience for a television company.

By maintaining this larger audience it will mean more views and profits, this is one of the reasons why Super sized vs Super skinny was a highly successful program and went on to air multiple seasons.

Whereas if the program were just to show the Super Sized for example its could be seen as discriminating against the person and objectifying the one individual.

To cover the funding of the project meaning that



By including this lower audience it will ensure