

No reply

25, Middleton Close,  
Fareham,  
Hants. PO14 1QN  
31st July, 2001

The Chairman,  
Independent Television Commission,  
33, Foley Street,  
London W1P 7LB

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Campaign to support Channel Four Television's decision to show the Brass Eye programme transmitted on 26th July and to repeat it the following evening.

We understand that the Commission has been criticised for being unable to respond immediately to an unusually large number of complaints about a single programme. We suggest that the delay is a welcome safeguard against criticism based on hearsay. Nobody has a right to complain of a programme they have not watched. Nor must the Commission be rendered vulnerable to organised campaigns of protest.

We hold that in a free society there are no taboo topics or taboo treatments. There is no attitude or assumption immune to criticism or to satire. If it is true that public figures were deceived into appearing on the programme, that is precisely the point that Chris Morris and his team were making; the moment the word 'paedophile' is spoken people become grotesquely credulous. They deserve to be fooled.

The Campaign is, of course, totally opposed to pre-transmission censorship of television. We hope that you will resist any attempts to impose it.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary, CAC

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