

14.03.04

Dear Sirs,

I am writing because I value particularly the BBC's ability to make outstanding documentaries and also excellent quality films. However, recently one of Jane Austen's novels was billed for showing (I can't remember which) but when the day for viewing came, I read the current write-up and the producer admitted to having completely altered the character of the work by bringing in some of the currently fashionable sexual deviations because she assumed that had Jane been living today she would have revelled in doing this. - I wish I had taken a cutting. (That which I have just written is from memory and may be somewhat inaccurate). However, needless to say, I did not watch the programme. There is enough sordidness in other literature, as well as in real life, already!

I see nothing against the Corporation running the commercial services it does, as obviously the profit ploughed back is considerable. Advertising would be a retrograde step though. As it is, one gets fed up with all the "trailers" of your own future productions.

The licence fee seemed to me a very good method of paying for the BBC when it was careful to maintain wholesome standards.

I wouldn't know if the Corporation is organised in the best way to serve the public, but certainly it seems to me that an independent body should be responsible for regulating it on behalf of the public interest.

Yours faithfully



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*P.S. Can't imagine that this small contribution would be considered worth publishing - I would prefer it not to be, thank you.*