

BBC Charter Review Consultation  
Dept. for Culture, Media & Sport.  
London SW1Y 5DH.

re-BBC Charter Review

27.3.04

Dear Sir,

I am responding to a Document entitled "Your BBC - Your Say". There are still many good things about the B.B.C. T.V. Programmes. I enjoy the balance of it's News Programmes. I enjoy many of the History Programmes and the Sports Programmes. No-one can do a period Drama better than the B.B.C. TV. I enjoy the Nature Programmes, the Holiday Programmes, University Challenge and Songs of Praise.

What I do not enjoy is all the swearing, particularly the "F" word. I do not enjoy East Enders when it shows marriage and family life as utterly sordid and miserable all the time. For goodness sake family life can be joyous and splendid - let us have some balance.

In my view the Television Channels of all the Broadcasters do not simply "hold a mirror" up to present day society, they in fact have the power to alter behaviour. (The advertisers know this that is why they pay such sums of money.) The BBC is therefore a very powerful force in society and a powerful force in forming present day morality. It can be a great force for good.

In the days of Lord Reith in the entrance of Broadcasting House were written (in Latin, <sup>rather than plain English,</sup> sadly) the words of St. Paul, "Whatsoever things are pure and true, noble and of good report, think on these things." Lord Reith wanted to point the populace to the heights - not the gutter! I urge those responsible for the Charter to make the BBC aware of the powerful influence it has - more influence over goggle-eyed children than many parents. Please point us to the stars for the sake of the next generation. Indeed I believe, that anything that is not fit for children to listen to or see is not fit for adults either.

I shall watch with interest the appointment of the new

Director General. I just pray that it will not be Channel 4's  
pornographer-in-chief, Michael Grade.

Let us continue to have the good things which BBC  
offers and let us get rid of the gross that the nation may be  
uplifted to a nobler life.

Yours sincerely,

Derek W. Bowker.