

From: Donna [  
Sent: 16 December 2003 03:24  
To: BBC Charter Review  
Subject: BBC Charter Review

Hello -

I am an American who used to watch BBCA. However, since they decided to remove EastEnders from their lineup, I refuse to watch anymore. Along with me, they have lost thousands of fans. BBCA claims low Neilsen Ratings. However, we are aware of the fact that satellite and cable providers are not able to be accurately tracked by Neilsen. A BBCA viewer relations person even told me on the phone that the Neilsens are a farce in the industry. BBCA has no idea how many EastEnders fans are out there. They have lost a huge audience due to this. EastEnders is the Number One drama in the UK - it definitely deserves a home on BBCA!

It has always been my understanding that BBCA provided "the best in British Television"! Well, that is simply not the case here. Below you will find tomorrow evening's lineup that we, in America, would have to watch IF we still viewed BBCA:

Tuesday, December 16th

7:00pm	House Invaders
7:30pm	Changing Rooms
8:00pm	Ground Force
9:00pm	Changing Rooms
9:30pm	Changing Rooms
10:00pm	Ground Force
11:00pm	Ground Force
12:00am	Changing Rooms
12:30am	Changing Rooms

Why is a lineup like this considered the best in British Television? If I want shows like this, I'll turn on the Do-It-Yourself Channel. This is hideous! These type of shows are shown over and over again. I cannot fathom why a schedule like this would be warranted. Constant repeats, the same show every hour, the same TYPE of show all night long!!!! Who in the world is scheduling such mindless clutter all evening, every evening, every week? Personally, I am insulted by BBCA actually thinking I would enjoy even a minute of this programming.

Another concern of mine is the new marketing campaign that BBCA is running on their station. They have these pathetic American women claiming to want to date men with British Accents no matter what they look like; one claiming that if someone says something with a British Accent, they just sounds smarter; and more Americans saying sad things like this. However, two weeks ago, BBCA actually dubbed an American Accent into one of their shows!!!!!! What in the world is going on here? The "Best of British Television" - YET, they dubb American Accents into their British show? W-H-Y?!?!?!?! (I believe it was an episode of Faking It that dubbed the accent.)

I am only one EX-viewer of BBCA - however, I can assure you that there are thousands upon thousand of EX-viewers that are completely fed up just as I am. We are not giving up trying to get our favorite show back. We have been lied to by BBCA. In the beginning of November, I personally took a phone call from a viewer relations person who told me that an announcement for an alternative outlet for Eastenders fans would be announced. Here I sit, six weeks later, and still NO ANNOUNCEMENT! They have lied, have banned Eastenders talk from their discussion boards, and even delete postings that refer to Eastenders. And after

posting about Eastenders, they suspend your account from posting again. Why are they so afraid of anyone even mentioning Eastenders?

The only topic BBCA understands now is the Do-It-Yourself programs. I will not tolerate such utter disregard for my intelligence! This lineup is a disgrace and in no way shape or form is the best of British Television! This is as close as we get here in America - do you really want BBC being represented like this? It's quite embarrassing, if you ask me.

It's always been a dream of mine to visit the UK. My 10-year-old daughter knows I talk about this trip, and knows I would enjoy our whole family visiting the UK. But the other day she said to me that we should think about going somewhere else because it seems that all they do in the UK is decorate houses and landscape for other people! How could I dispute that one? Even though I knew how awful the BBCA lineup was, it was at that very moment it was confirmed for me that BBCA is making a mockery of the UK and BBC. I just simply DO NOT understand the concept here!

I honestly don't expect any changes. BBCA hasn't cared to this point how awful their lineup is, what the viewers want to see, or what the viewers say. It's ashamed that it has to be this way - it really used to be a good channel.

Sincerely,  
Donna M. Burdo  
Philadelphia, PA  
USA