

BBC Charter Review Consultation

2-A Cockspur St SW1Y 5DH

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Dear Sirs,

A friend has passed to me your request for opinions on BBC programmes.

T.V: Here channels 1 and 2 are now less frequently used except for the news, but since we got BBC4 we often find something worth watching. Endless "soaps", garden make overs, blood + violence and "reality t.v." seem to me to engender a sense of disconnectedness and an unhealthy urge to humiliate + even hurt other people which is quite unacceptable.

It would be nice to have in depth programmes about serious matters, particularly visual arts after 9 p.m.

Small points about programme making:

- ① Wildly moving + garishly coloured backgrounds behind speakers are most distracting. Please remove.
- ② Speech conducted over unnecessary background music can be almost (or quite) inaudible.
- ③ Rhythmic jerking movements of hands by reporters are just so irritating - the best presenters, Alistair Cook, James Cameron, Charles Wheeler, etc, never felt the need to do this. A word to the programme presenters, please!

Radio: We find radio 4 of interest in the early morning for news and discussion but later it's usually radio 3. But even this often has to be turned off in favour of a C.D. (or silence!) because there's so much talking. In France we heard a programme called France Musique which is really what it says — they announce the piece + play the music without boring interviews and chit chat.

BBC should continue to charge a licence fee to retain its independence to produce educationally improving programmes, but there can be no objection to it boosting income by sales of D.V.D. etc.

The organisation should possibly have a regulator who is impartial and separate from the Board of Governors.

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I hope the BBC will continue to be independent and not unduly influenced only by the numbers watching + listening to popular programmes since this is a recipe, surely, for still further "dumbing down" of broadcasting.

Yours faithfully

Lucy Wynne Turner