

WELCOME TO THE REVOLUTION



WEEK 2: REALISM

(OUR) PIECES OF A PRIME-TIME REVOLUTION

based on the book

Realism

Feminism

Individualism

Commercialism

Escapism

FYI: a word about the 1 to 70 numberings to come...

REALISM

- “the attitude or practice of accepting **a situation as it is** and being prepared to deal with it accordingly”
- “the quality or fact of representing a person, thing, or situation accurately or in a way that is **true to life**”

THE UNITED STATES IN 1970

- racial unrest post-Civil Rights Act and post-Watts Riots
- Vietnam and counterculture protest; growing distrust of establishment (Kent State)
- feminist movement spurred by 1960s Second Wave Feminism picking up speed
- the American family: changing roles, changing rules
- an awareness of and appreciation for the planet and our roles in keeping it alive ("Ecology" movement)
- "a time of new aspirations for women, gays, and people of color"

Hawaii Five-O



Killer

Not Rated | 51m

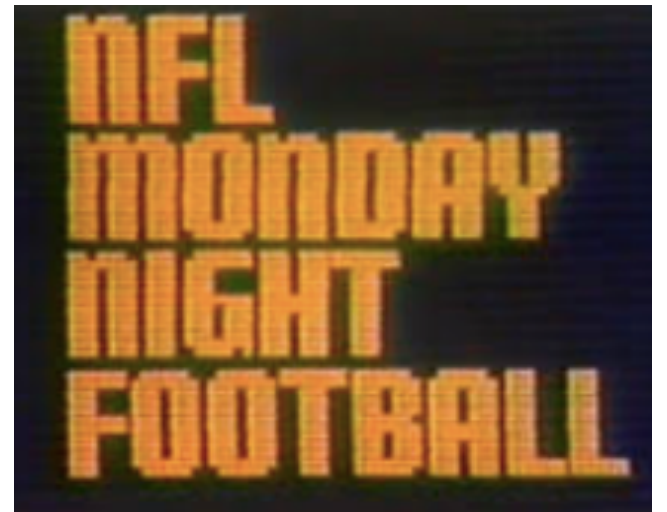
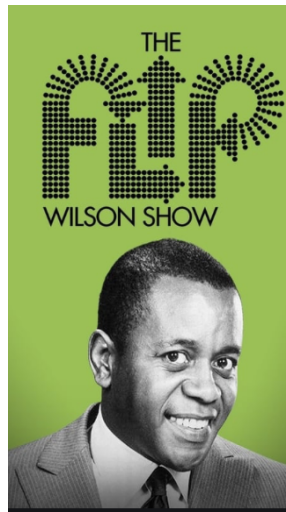
Season 2 | Episode 7



January 1970

*My Sweet
Charlie*





THE FIRST TV SEASON OF THE NEW DECADE (SEP 1970)

ALL IN THE FAMILY
arrives mid-way through
(Jan '71) CBS



(1)



“The program you are about to see is *All In The Family*. It seeks to throw a humorous spotlight on our frailties, prejudices, and concerns. By making them a source of laughter, we hope to show – in a mature fashion – just how absurd they are.”

-- CBS on-air disclaimer before the premiere of **ALL IN THE FAMILY**

(Jan 12 1971)

ALL IN THE FAMILY

- <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x5v0ysl>

Gloria 22:10

- <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6u7doq>

Change

- 21:00

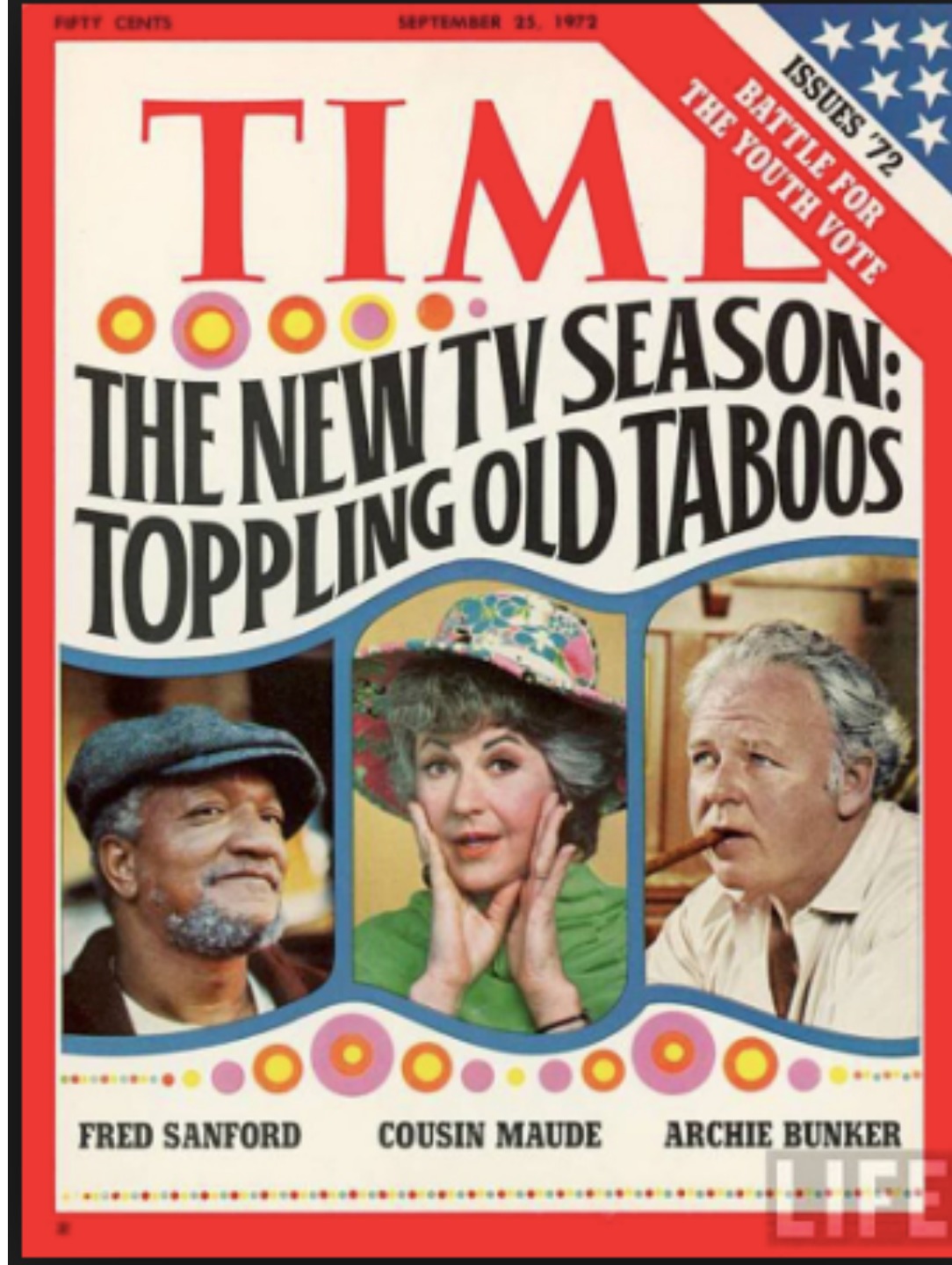


NORMAN LEAR (2)

Norman Lear series



SEP 72



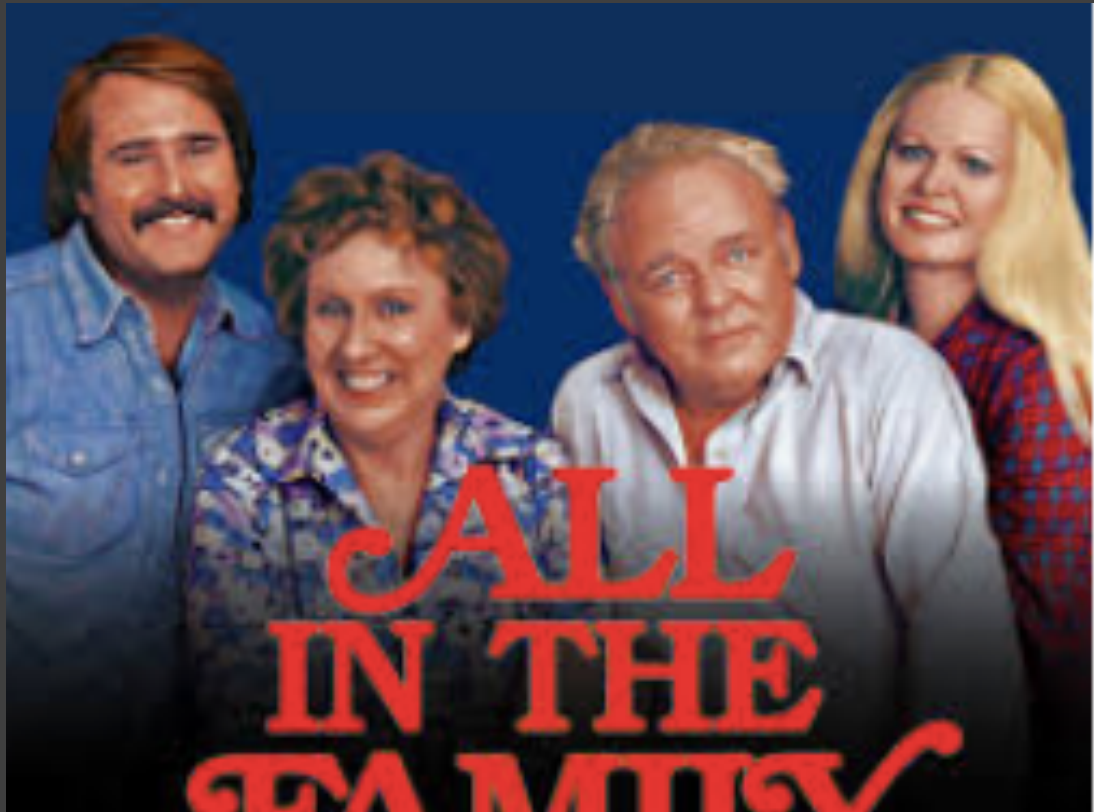
IT'S HAPPENING IN SITCOMS, EPISODIC DRAMA AND IN MADE-FOR TV FILMS

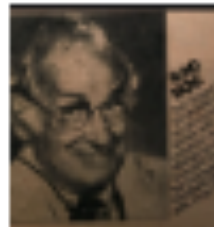
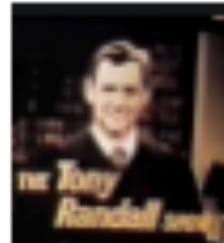
- sitcoms are less gimmicky and more character-based
- conventions being upended: comedy can trigger tears and drama can trigger laughs
- settings and situations are more reality-based, city-based
- “issues” are being explored all over, and as a result TV is “about” more than just entertainment

(Those who follow feature films can see this happening in the cinema too...)

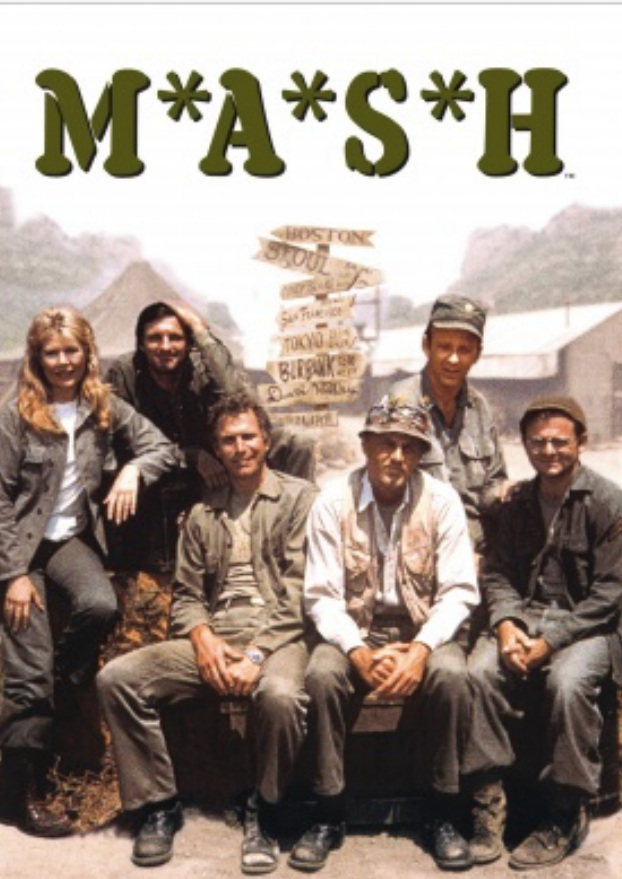
CHIEFLY, TWO SERIES PAVE THE WAY

(because they're getting the ratings and awards)





MTM PRODUCTIONS



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)

M*A*S*H
(1972-83)
CBS



- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_RWAc1uvUQ&list=RDOarzpWNkwgc&index=17

(blake)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZTgtgbVpc0>

(bullet)



BARNEY MILLER
(1975-82) ABC

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKubY_IC7xw



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuOJ4UstJEM>

(Harris) 7:30

Gregory Sierra (1937-2021)



"I think *Barney Miller* is much more real than any other cop show," Sierra [said](#) in an interview for the 1976 book *TV Talk 2: Exploring TV Territory*. "The people in the show have real problems. *Kojak* never worries. He knows he's got it made. Everything is always under control on that show. You never see the frustrations of police work or the kind of joking that goes on among real policemen. Those are the kinds of things we show on *Barney Miller*."



TAXI (1978-82) ABC



standards are set for ensemble writing that will influence sitcoms for decades to come

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNmnroyJSZO>





WKRP IN CINCINNATI (1978-82) CBS

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p00nBSNIPwg>

thx

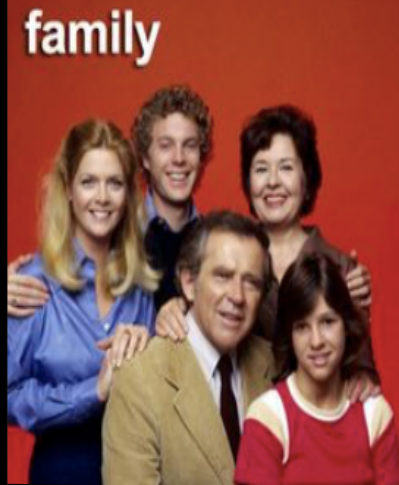
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSeWECDb3YM>

who

DRAMA

Rank	Program	Network	Rating
1	<i>Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In</i>	NBC	31.8
2	<i>Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.</i>	CBS	27.2
3	<i>Bonanza</i>	NBC	26.6
4	<i>Mayberry R.F.D.</i>	CBS	25.4
5	<i>Family Affair</i>		25.2
6	<i>Gunsmoke</i>		24.9
7	<i>Julia</i>	NBC	24.6
8	<i>The Dean Martin Show</i>		24.1
9	<i>Here's Lucy</i>	CBS	23.8
10	<i>The Beverly Hillbillies</i>		23.5

1968 ...
 JUST A FEW
 YEARS
 AGO...



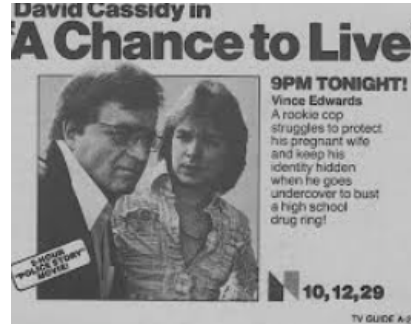
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(11)



POLICE STORY (1973-78) NBC

THE EFFECT

- law-and-order on TV became less “Dragnet” black-and-white and more gray, with anti-heroes and unresolved storylines
- as Joseph Wambaugh did with his novels, the life of the ordinary cop is explored and the concept of the all-knowing do-good right-angled police officer is rounded and softened (and hardened)
- less a case of us & them, especially since as it turns out they are us
- Emmy Award for Best Drama

FAMILY (1976-80) ABC



- <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3p2rvo>

- 22:00

Kate

If I got rid of a baby every time I thought I didn't want it, we wouldn't have much of a family.

Doug

You don't mean that.

Kate

Don't presume to tell me what I mean. I'm 46 years old and I've borne three children. Some of the time of those pregnancies, I wanted out. It's the body that makes the baby and hangs on to it for nine months. Why can't men understand sometimes women just want out! My god, when I found out I was pregnant with Buddy, I even got as far as tracking down an abortionist.

Buddy storms off and doesn't hear Kate finish:

Kate

Why can't you understand? Eventually I wanted all of them. Now, I can't imagine life without them. But sometimes, sometimes, just for a minute, I didn't.

—

“Rites of Friendship”

(DEC 28 1976)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEPFEnuWONM>
- (40:20)



THE EFFECT

- family storytelling comes out of the sitcom and into the one-hour drama with what's essentially the first contemporary one-hour family drama
- no safe that-was-then “remove” of the past found in period dramas “The Waltons” and “Little House on the Prairie”... This is today and now
- used its considerable auspices to explore previously unexplored contemporary issues in a realistic way
- Multiple Emmys for acting

LOU GRANT (1977-82) CBS

WEEKLY EXPLORATION
OF HOT-BUTTON TOPICS

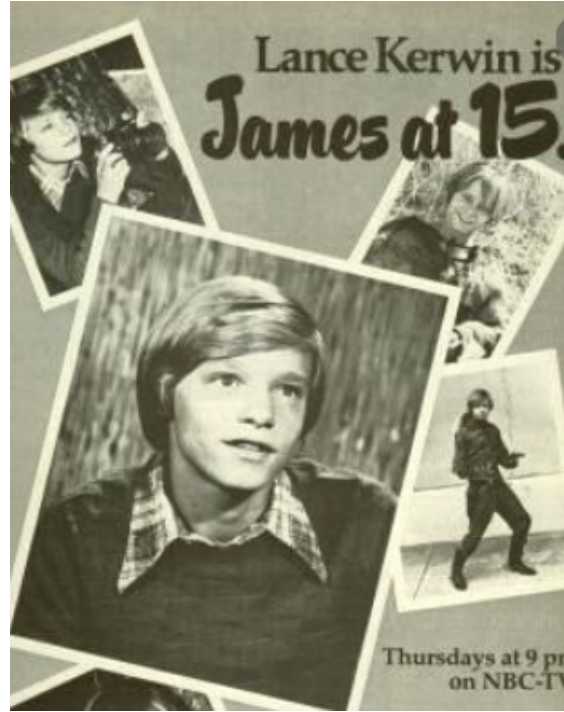
- Police corruption
- Dementia on the bench
- Nazi movement
- Birth defects from pharmaceuticals

AND A WOMAN IN CHARGE....



THE EFFECT

- award-winning writing-based drama opened the door to more explorations of issues affecting American lives
- Emmy for Best Drama



JAMES AT 15 (1977-78) NBC

THE EFFECT

- young people are people, too...
- more important, they're TV watchers and they want to see accurate representations of themselves and their lives

THE WHITE
SHADOW
(1978-81)
CBS



THE EFFECT

“

From race relations to drugs to urban violence—the TV show that got there first.

”



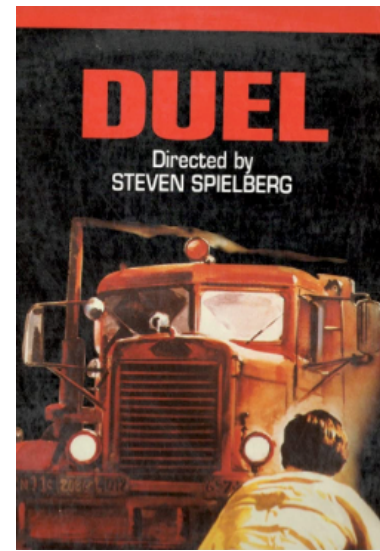
MOVIES AND MINISERIES



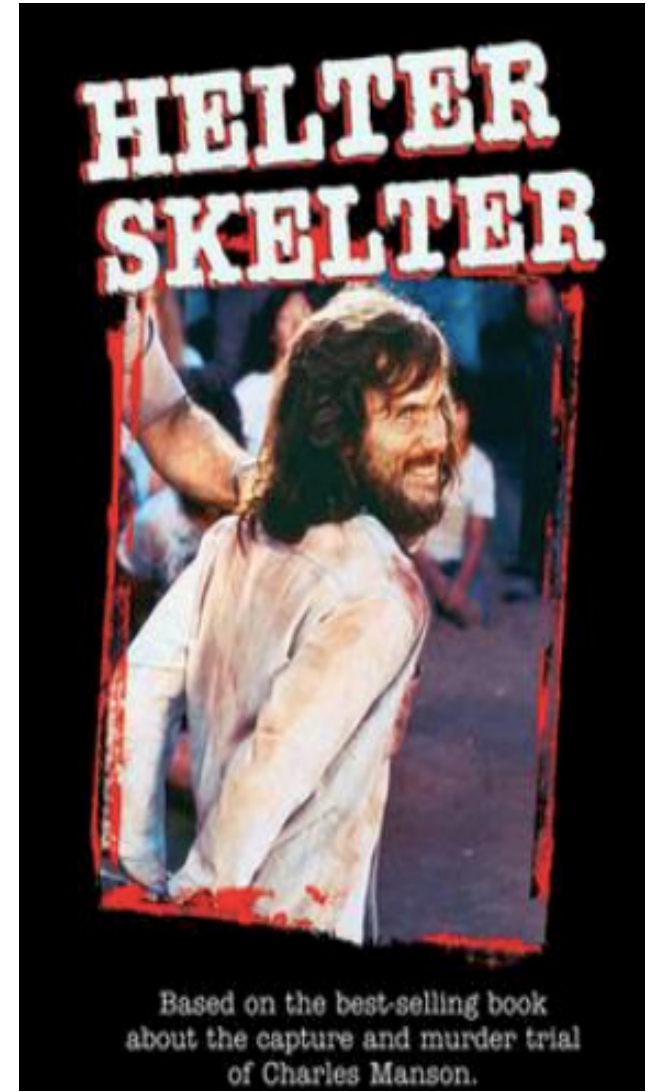
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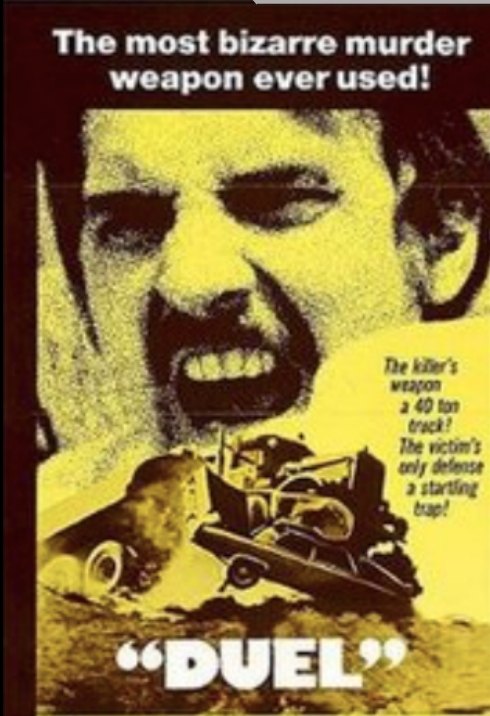
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(15)



(16)



- directed by Steven Spielberg

DUEL
(NOV 13 1971)
ABC

THE EFFECT

- The made-for-television movie becomes an art form and not just a time filler

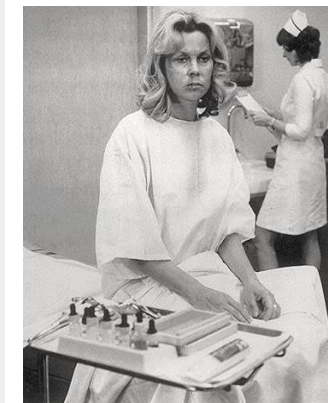
A CASE OF RAPE (FEB 20 1974) NBC



Seen in more
homes than any
made-for-TV movie
in television history!

A CASE of RAPE

An acclaimed TV Special starring
Elizabeth Montgomery

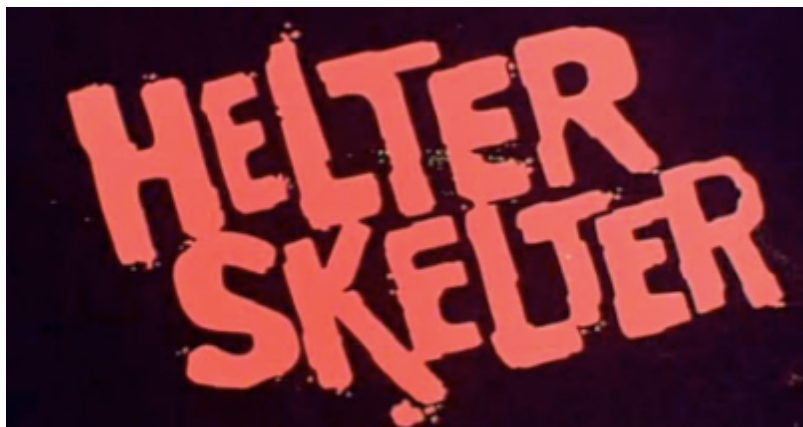


THE EFFECT

- a new victim-focused depiction of an often unspoken-about crime
- introduced a new sub-genre in movie storytelling

And in the real world:

- changed how the crime is prosecuted and the victim is treated



HELTER SKELTER (APR 1-2 1976) CBS

Innovates in brutality and reality of heinous crime
as it smashed ratings records

SYBIL (NOV 14-15 1976) NBC









- another taboo falls as an unspeakable offense is recounted in stark reality ways;
- reinforced by "based on a true story" label (later proved false)
- whole new level of small-screen acting
- opens doors to stories about (mis)treatment of children



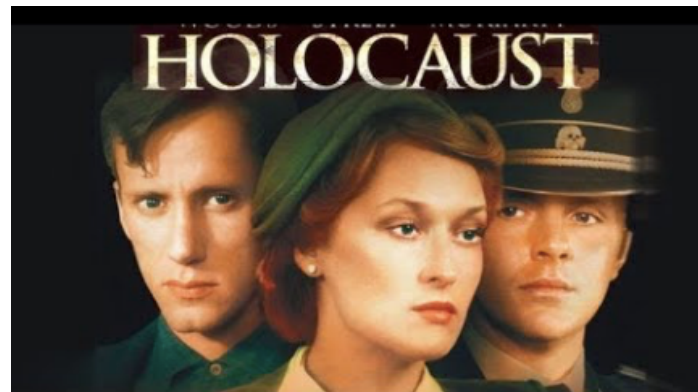
HOLOCAUST (APR 16-19 1978) NBC

"HOLOCAUST"

The internationally acclaimed drama which won 8 Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award, a Congressional Record citation and 20 additional honors.

<p>Fritz Weaver as Dr. Josef Weiss. The devastating decision his family, his patients, or himself. He couldn't save all three.</p>			<p>Tovah Feldshuh as Helena Stomova. Her intense love for Rudi Weiss was more compelling than all the powerful forces of war.</p>
<p>Rosemary Harris as Berta Weiss. She believed it couldn't happen in the land of Goethe, Beethoven and Schiller— unfortunately none of them were in office.</p>			<p>Meryl Streep as Inga Helms Weiss. She had married a Jew and would do anything to stay with him— even if he were in a concentration camp.</p>
<p>Michael Moriarty as Eric Dorf. An unemployed attorney looking for an easy government job. He didn't know it would include mass murder.</p>			<p>James Woods as Karl Weiss. He somehow lived through the horrors of Buchenwald, and tried to warn the world through his art.</p>
<p>Joseph Bottoms as Rudi Weiss. At 23 he escaped from the Nazi cruelty—until he knew he must return to finish the fight.</p>			<p>Deborah Norton as Maria Dorf. She was the perfect wife. The perfect mother. The perfect Nazi.</p>

Executive Producer Herbert Brodtkin/Producer Robert Berger
Director Marvin Chomsky/Screenplay by Gerald Green/Music by Morton Gould.



Holocaust: How a US TV series changed Germany

By Damien McGuinness
BBC News, Berlin

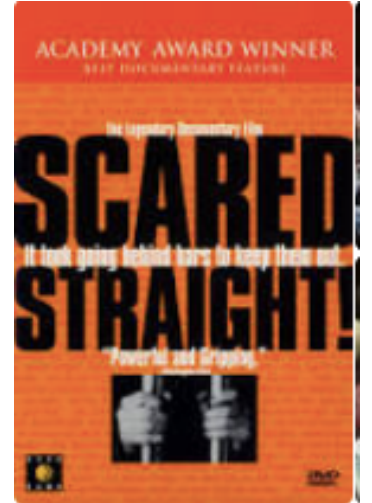
NON-FICTION
PROGRAMMING

NEWS

UNSCRIPTED

DOCUMENTARY

KID-BASED



(17)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(21)

(22)



AN AMERICAN FAMILY
(JAN 11 – MAR 29 1973)
PBS

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=0U942OZ2104](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0U942OZ2104)



ENTERTAINMENT

Pat Loud, 'American Family' mother of reality TV, dead at 94

By [Rob Bailey-Millado](#)

January 11, 2021 | 8:19am | Updated





MUNICH OLYMPICS MASSACRE (SEP 5-6 1972) ABC

https://www.realclearhistory.com/video/2016/09/06/jim_mckay_theyre_all_gone.html

“They’re all gone.”

ABC AFTERSCHOOL SPECIAL (1972-97)


AN ABC AFTERSCHOOL SPECIAL
Watch it with your kids!



Dear Lovey Hart: I Am Desperate!
Carlie writes an advice column for her school paper...but solving other people's troubles suddenly gives her problems all her own.

ABC Afterschool Special
©Today 4:30PM ©

"BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT"
Craig will do anything to impress his friends - lie, cheat, steal. When he's caught, he always has an excuse. Then he learns that excuses don't work in jail.



ABC AFTERSCHOOL SPECIALS

TOMORROW 3:30PM ©
Brought to you by Felicity. ©1972, World Television Premiere

ABC AFTERSCHOOL SPECIALS



Jack Thinks Smoking Pot Is The Answer To All His Problems!
Jack Melan is a good student. One of the best in his class. He's shy, has no friends, and can't talk to girls. Getting high seems to get him friends, but it also gets him into deep trouble. If you smoke pot, know somebody who does, or just want to understand what it's all about, don't miss this very important show.

"Stoned"
Wednesday Afternoon
© 4:30PM ©

Also see "What Parents Should Know About..."
ABC's Week On Good Morning America

AWARD-WINNING SERIES!

ABC Afterschool Special

Peter Harris is a basketball star with a secret... and he's afraid to tell anyone!
Peter's a top basketball player...and secretly a brilliant ballet dancer! The only problem is, his father and friends think ballet is for "wimps." Can Peter stand up to the pressure once his secret is revealed?

A Special Gift
THE SPECIAL TO SHARE WITH YOUR KIDS
©TODAY 4:00PM ©

Brought to you by M&M, MARS and General Foods.



ABC Afterschool Special

Ever want something so badly, you'd do anything to get it... even break the law?
His big brother promised to take his mother back to Puerto Rico. But he broke that promise...and now it's up to Gaucha to make her dreams come true... anyway he can.

GAUCHO
SHARE IT WITH YOUR KIDS!
©Today 4:30PM ©

Brought to you by M&M, MARS and General Foods.



ABC Afterschool Special



His mother's pregnancy has 10-year-old Peter a bit puzzled and confused. But real-life pediatrician Dr. Lendon Smith teaches Peter about the beginning of life. You and your family will share Peter's learning experience through an actual videotaped birth. A special-episode presentation of an award-winning program. Watch it with your kids!

"My Mom's having a baby"
©Today 4:30 pm ©
Brought to you by General Foods and M&M, MARS

THE WATCHWORD OF THE FRANCHISE AND THE DECADE

- “It had to be **real**,” he said. “If kids watched any of my three specials dealing with alcoholic parents, they were never given a fairy tale ending. I saw to that, because I came from an alcoholic father and knew all the tricks and I wanted the kids who watched—many dealing with the same problem or having friends who had alcoholic parents—to know how it really is.”
- “The only rule of storytelling that ABC required we follow was ... the kid always had to figure out what to do and do it,” he said. “No finger-waving by parents, no lectures by parents. It was a kid who was in a situation and found, through his or her own efforts, a solution.”

THE BODY HUMAN (1977-84) CBS



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSowY0htNNM>





SCARED STRAIGHT (MAY 1979) SYN

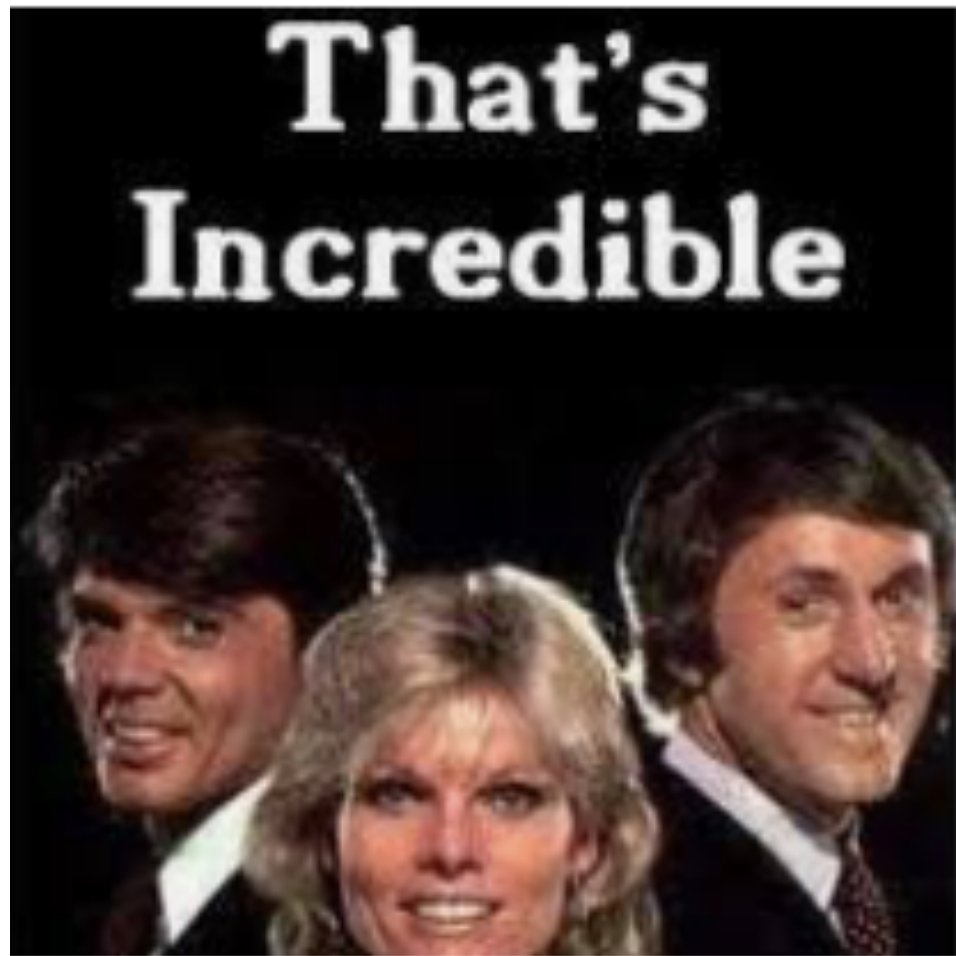
real people real problems real life – in your living room

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgjhT234m0Y>



4 36 REAL PEOPLE—Comedy
Debut: A newsmagazine reporting on unusual events, eccentric personalities and unheralded heroes. Fred Willard, Sarah Purcell, John Barbour, Jimmy Breslin, Mark Russell, Skip Stephenson and Bill Rafferty are the regulars who kick off this six-week series with a lampoon of the IRS, a tribute to a Navy frogman, a sampling of newsroom bloopers, a visit with a California hobo. (60 min.)

REAL PEOPLE (1979-84) NBC



THE EFFECT

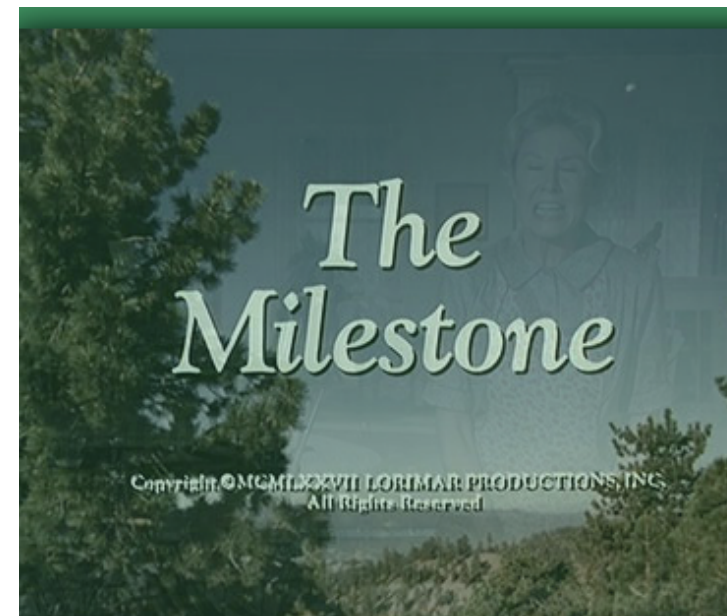
Marcus Welby, M.D



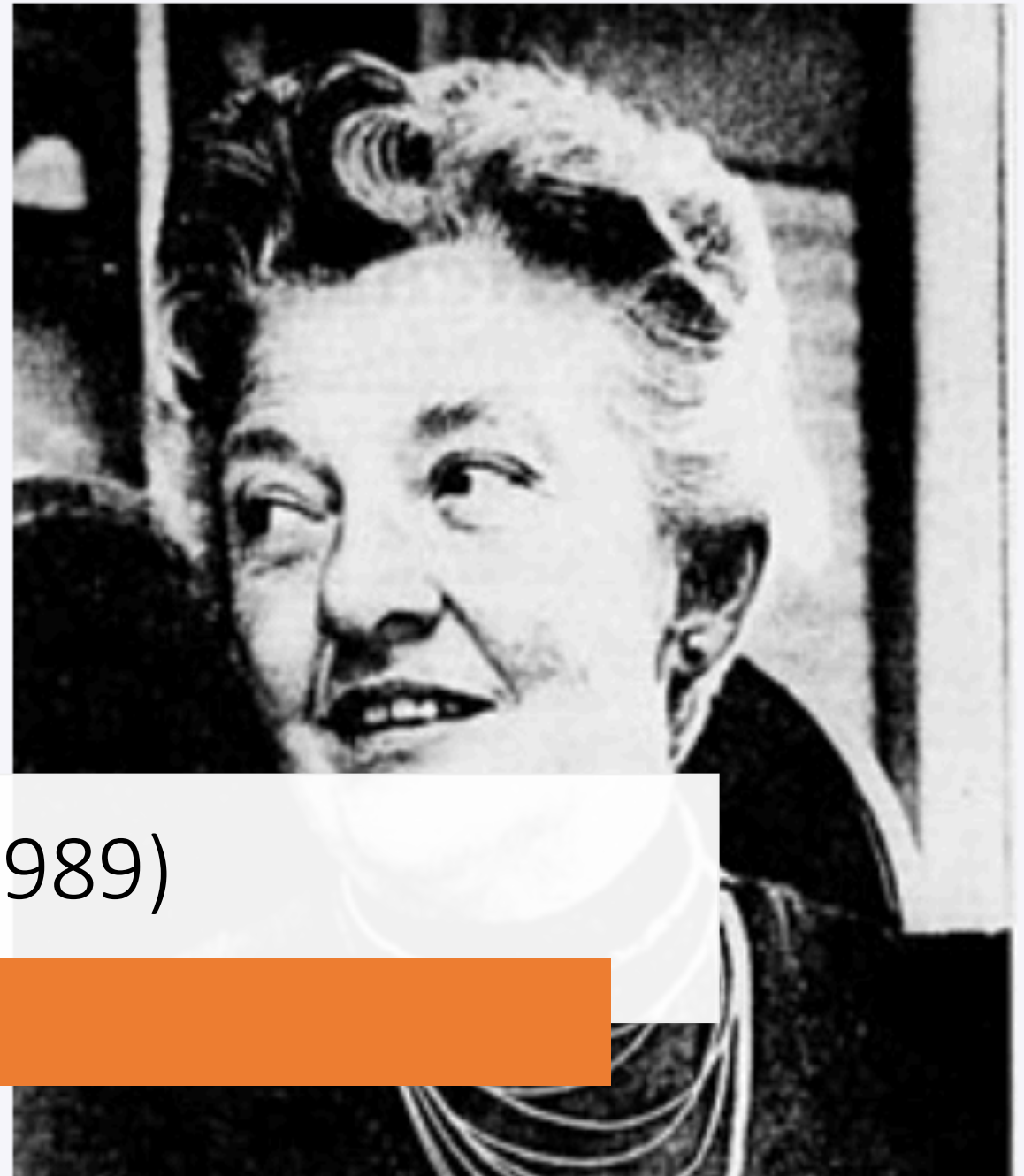
TOPICS among various series in the 1970s

- sexuality, divorce, feminism, race, spousal abuse, teen pregnancy, prostitution, PTSD and Vietnam
- a realistic approach to situations and characters and dialogue (“Don’t presume to tell me what I mean!”)

DEC 15 1977
CBS

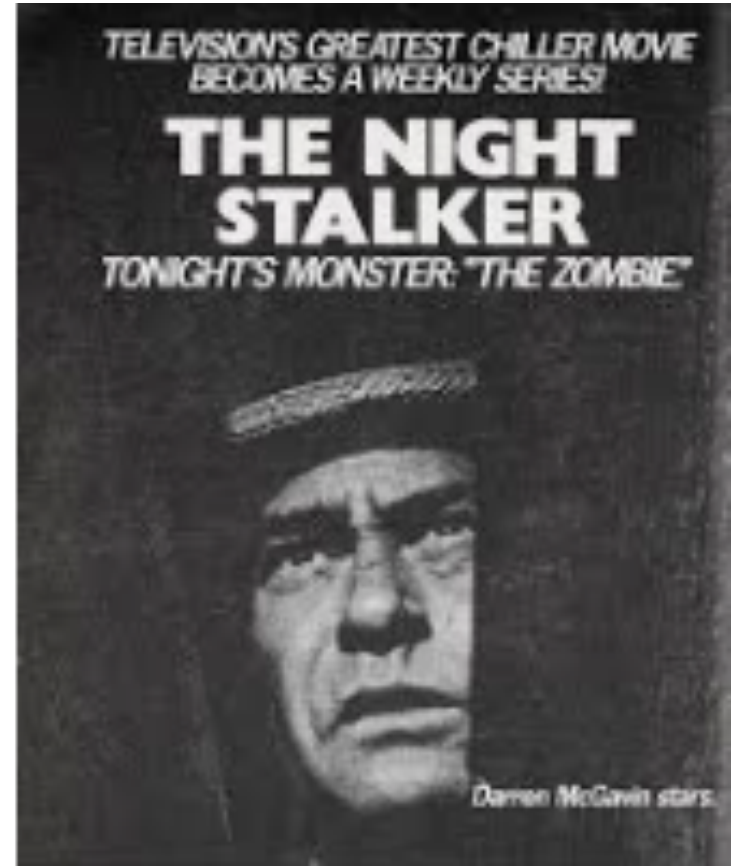
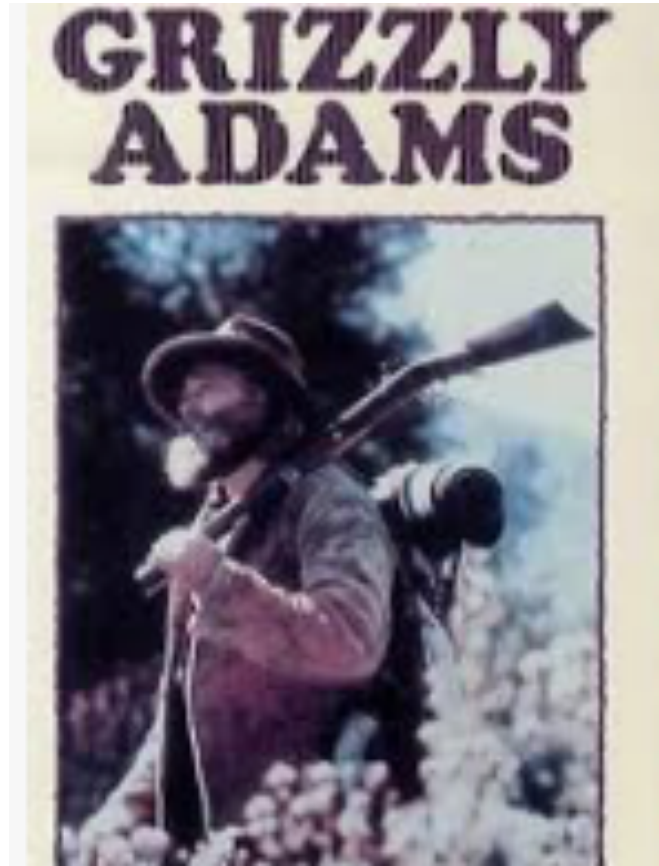


Kathleen Hite



(1917-1989)





IN THE ZEITGEIST ... REFLECTING
THE WORLD AROUND US...





migrant. An NBC white Paper (NBC)



BROADCAST NEWS DOCUMENTARIES

- "ECOLOGY"
- THE "GENERATION GAP"
- THE NEW SOUTH
- RACE RELATIONS
- THE ENERGY CRISIS
- THE GAY EXPERIENCE
- SENIOR CITIZENS
- CHANGING FACE OF TELEVISION

END OF WEEK 2

WEEK 3 - FEMINSIM

