

Sent only to  
Ted Goodwin

9th January 1997

Independent Television Commission,  
31 Foley Street,  
London W.1.

Dear Sirs,

Re: BRUCE GYNGELL, DIRECTOR OF YORKSHIRE/CHANNEL 3 NORTH EAST

I am writing to complain of the above, who appears to have set himself up as a self-appointed censor for his television area as to what he judges fit for adults to watch.

I am talking about the new series Hollywood Lovers which ghe has banned from the N.E. area as he thinks he has the right to clamp down on sex on the screen. In other words, a male version of Mary Whitehouse and I am bloody angry about it!

As far as I know this series does not show explicit sex but talks about the sex lives of Hollywood stars etc.

This is not the first time he has acted as censor. He also banned the Sex Guide series from the North East so since living up here I haven't been able to see anymore in the series. (over 2 years). I think he has also banned one or more shows/series because of sex.

What damn right has anyone, even if he is a Director of a regional television company, to tell several million adults in the North East what they can and cannot watch!

The whole thing is an anomaly as there are many films, plays and other shows which are sexual in content and also show sex scenes so him banning the Sex Guides - which are shown very late at night or in the early hours in other tv regions - is absolutely absurd and smacks of double standards!

I am in NCROPA and can only echo what the Director has said ...'such a campaign as ours was never more needed in this grotesquely, censored obsessed country than now!

Notwithstanding the scandalous, authoritarian sexual repression that still, almost uniquely persists (and increases) in the UK .....

What I would like to know is does the ITC have the power to over rule someone like Gyngell who thinks he has the right to dictate to several million viewers in the North East what they can or cannot see? I know he is the Director of the above two channels but the majority of adults would be incensed that some appointed little Ozzie who has set himself up as censor

of adult's viewing habits and is a downright insult and arrogance.  
Perhaps you have received other letters from similarly outraged viewers?

I do hope you have the powers to over-rule him as many of us in the N.E. would like to see  
Hollywood Lovers and the Sex Guide series and other programmes he's had the temerity and  
arrogance to ban from viewers.

I would be pleased to hear your comments.

Yours faithfully,



c.c. David Webb, NCROPA.  
Bruce Gyngell, Yorkshire TV/Channel 3 N.E.f