

Have The Soaps Gone Too Far?

By **Alexander Baron** - Mar 3, 2015



First TV soap operas aired on television networks in the 1940s

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In recent years, soap operas in the UK have included storylines that are fantastic and ludicrous in equal measure. Now in its thirtieth year, *EastEnders* has seen two resurrections and is currently gearing up to bring about a third. More outlandish than this have been their tackling of controversial issues including drug abuse, paedophilia and homosexuality. *EastEnders* is currently running a rape plot which included an attempt **to brainwash its audience** into believing that all allegations of rape have equal merit and all should be believed uncritically, in spite of all empirical evidence indicating the contrary. It is however *Emmerdale* that is currently under fire.



EastEnders going on the third resurrection

Recently it screened an episode in which a drunken woman was indecently assaulted by an obsessed teenager. Admittedly the assault was more implied than actual, but even to imply such a sexual assault before the 9pm watershed in what is theoretically a family programme has resulted in **dozens of complaints**. Thomas Atkinson, the actor who plays the creepy Lachlan White is actually 16 rather than 14 as in the soap itself, but the question has to be asked, what comes next? In recent years, *Emmerdale* has also seen a serial killer, a murder with a frame up, a girl killing a schoolfriend accidentally and convicted of manslaughter, an assisted suicide, and the vicar losing his marbles, resigning his post, being sacked from a burger bar, and now reinstated to his old post while having survived a fire and a carjacking, his second ex-wife is currently drinking her way to the bottom of a wine bottle. Not bad for a place that has one shop, and no library, much less a launderette.



Emmerdale gone to far?

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