

BBC SERVICE REVIEW : 2009

As part of the Consultation by the BBC from 24th September to 18th December 2009 the BBC specifically asked participants the questions 'What do you like?', 'What do you dislike?' and 'What should the BBC do to make these channels better for you?'

The following is a response from the Maranatha Community, which represents many thousands of Christians in all the churches throughout the United Kingdom -

A. LIKES AND DISLIKES

1. **WE LIKE** the majority of BBC documentary programmes and see them as achieving a very high standard.
2. **WE DISLIKE** the ongoing marginalisation of genuinely Christian content in many programmes which clearly favour a markedly secular humanist approach.
3. **WE LIKE** the general presentation of news.
4. **WE DISLIKE** news features which appear to be rooted in the inflexible views of the programme producers.
5. **WE LIKE** many of the general interest programmes which have high quality photography and presentation.
6. **WE DISLIKE** programmes including the soaps which trivialise marriage, family and human relationships and which provide bad role models for children.
7. **WE LIKE** the image of courtesy and respect for viewers shown by many BBC presenters, newscasters and interviewers.
8. **WE DISLIKE** the vulgarity of performers in late-night shows and the continuing insistence of the BBC to tolerate the use of foul and offensive language against the express will of the majority of viewers.
9. **WE LIKE** the respect which BBC shows to non-Christian religions.
10. **WE DISLIKE** the frequent lack of respect for Christ and the Christian faith and the continuing stereotyping of Christians as narrow-minded, old fashioned, traditional or bigoted.
11. **WE LIKE** those programmes which have an open and honest consideration of religious belief.
12. **WE DISLIKE** those programmes which promote a distorted view of Christians and which are so clearly committed to the promotion of pluralism, political correctness, syncretism and secular humanism.
13. **WE LIKE** those programmes which affirm the Judeo-Christian values which are the foundations of our nation and civilisation.

14. **WE DISLIKE** those programmes which seem to be committed to the ridiculing and destruction of Judeo-Christian values.
15. **WE LIKE** many of the programmes specifically for children.
16. **WE DISLIKE** the broadcasting of material both before and after the water shedding which can do harm to children.

B. WHAT SHOULD THE BBC DO?

The BBC should recognise the considerable power and influence it wields over the life of the nation and act with a far greater sense of responsibility, particularly towards children.

The BBC should take an immediate stand against all portrayed violence, bad language and extreme vulgarity.

The BBC should respond more effectively to the beliefs of millions of people throughout the land by giving far greater emphasis to programmes focusing on Christian experience, belief and lifestyle.

**Dennis Wrigley
Community Leader**

18th December 2009

The Maranatha Community, 102 Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6JT
Tel: 0161 748 4858 Fax: 0161 747 7379
Email: info@maranathacommunity.org.uk www.maranathacommunity.org.uk