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Description of document: Informal complaints received by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding the television shows 'Here Comes Honey Boo Boo,' and '19 Kids And Counting,' 2012-2015

Request date: 2015

Released date: 07-August-2015

Posted date: 31-August-2015

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W., Room 1-A836  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
Email: [FOIA@fcc.gov](mailto:FOIA@fcc.gov)  
Fax: 202-418-0521  
[FOIAonline](#)

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Federal Communications Commission  
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau  
Washington, D.C. 20554



August 7, 2015

FOIA Nos. 2015-689 and 2015-690

This letter responds to your recent Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request received by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) and assigned to the Consumer & Governmental Affairs ("CGB") and Enforcement ("EB") Bureaus. You are requesting informal complaints regarding the television series "HERE COMES HONEY BOO BOO" and "19 KIDS AND COUNTING."

Please be advised that your two FOIA requests were aggregated for calculation of the FOIA fees. According to the Commission's Records Control Schedule for Informal Complaints ("Records Control Schedule"), the Commission is not required to maintain informal complaints and related correspondence for more than three years after the case is closed. See N1-173-07-1, FCC Disposition Authority. Therefore, all complaints records prior to January 1, 2012, have been purged pursuant to the Records Control Schedule.

CGB conducted a search of the databases in which we maintain the records of informal complaints filed by, or on behalf of, consumers. Our search revealed 26 complaints that are responsive to your request, which are attached. EB informed CGB that a search of its records identified no responsive documents.

Mike Hennigan of my staff redacted all personal identifying information relating to the individuals who submitted or are named in the enclosed complaints or inquiries based on Exemption 6 of FOIA, which permits agencies not to disclose files that would clearly invade personal privacy.

Please be advised that the Commission receives many complaints and comments that do not involve violations of the Communications Act or any FCC rule or order. Thus, the existence of a complaint filed against a particular carrier or business entity does not

necessarily indicate any wrongdoing by any individuals or business entities named in the complaint.

FOIA and FCC rules require the FCC to charge requesters for time spent searching for and reviewing responsive documents, and for copying them. Based on your classification as an "all other" requester, the FCC does not charge you for the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of copying. Because preparing the response to your request falls within these limits, the FCC is not charging you for processing it.

If you consider this to be a denial of your FOIA request, you may seek review by filing an application for review with the Office of General Counsel. An application for review must be *received* by the Commission within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter<sup>1</sup>. You may file an application for review by mailing the application to Federal Communications Commission, Office of General Counsel, 445 12th St SW, Washington, DC 20554, or you may file your application for review electronically by e-mailing it to FOIA-Appeal@fcc.gov. Please caption the envelope (or subject line, if via e-mail) and the application itself as "Review of Freedom of Information Action."

Sincerely,



Nancy Stevenson  
Deputy Chief  
Consumer Policy Division  
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Attachments

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<sup>1</sup>. 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.461(j), 1.115; 47 C.F.R. § 1.7 (documents are considered filed with the Commission upon their receipt at the location designated by the Commission).

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**Ticket: # 394218 - 19 Kids and Counting**

**Date: 7/9/2015 9:14:49 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Greenville, South Carolina 29615**

**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

Due to the recent evidence that has been made public via the FOIA, The Duggar family was proven to have committed felony crimes and concealed other felony crimes. This type of behavior has no place on television. Unfortunately, if the show 19 Kids and Counting is allowed to be broadcast, there is a strong possibility other children will be sexually abused and the abuse go unreported. The American people have clearly spoken, as have our current state and federal laws. Sexual abuse of a minor, and concealment of sexual abuse cannot be over looked or unpunished. The Duggar family was portrayed as a strong Christian family with traditional family values. Jim Bob and Michelle Duggar were considered role models and parenting experts. It is irresponsible to allow the show to continue, in light of the crimes committed and concealed. Thank you for your swift decision in this matter. We as a nation must speak out against child abuse and neglect. We cannot allow our most vulnerable citizens to be victimized and go unprotected.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 8:17:42 AM:**

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

For the FCC to consider whether a licensee has violated these requirements of the law, a complaint must relate to particular programming, rather than express a general opinion. To proceed on a complaint, the FCC must have information that includes the station that aired the programming material, the date and time of day of the broadcast, a recording, transcript or description of the material broadcasted. This will allow us to determine whether it is obscene, indecent or profane. Because your complaint does not provide all of this information, we cannot proceed further with regard to your allegations. Accordingly, we must close your complaint.

Your views and concerns about program material are important to us. You may refile your complaint with this additional information. To expedite our consideration of your complaint, we recommend that you submit it via the FCC's online Consumer Help Center at [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov).

To assist you further, we are including links to information that discusses the law with respect to indecent, profane and obscene broadcasts and our enforcement procedures.

We encourage you to convey your concerns, whether general or program-specific, directly to station management. This can be an effective method to influence a broadcast licensee's programming decisions.

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming-Quick-Facts>

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 393997 - 19 kids and counting**

**Date: 7/9/2015 7:36:47 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Little Rock, Arkansas 72206**

**Status: Solved**

**Company Complaining About: Infinity**

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### **Description**

It is my understanding that there have been complaints lodged against the TLC show 19 Kids and Counting. There are very few shows with Christian values left on TV, and apparently the liberal agenda is to get all of them removed in any way possible. There are many morally corrupt shows that should be removed from TV before this show but as this country is going to hell in a handbasket I am not surprised that this show is being attacked. The "pedophile" in question was a child when he did what he is accused of doing. Doesn't make it right but doesn't warrant the witch hunt that has been waged against this family. Please do not ban this show. These people are being persecuted!

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 9:09:33 AM:**

Thank you for your submission. Your complaint provides the FCC with important information we can use to develop policies to protect consumers, remedy violations of the Communications Act, and encourage future compliance with the law.

We have attached a consumer guide that includes relevant information on the issue you have raised.

As such, no further action is required by the FCC. Your complaint was closed as of today.

Thank you for your submission and help in furthering the FCC's mission on behalf of consumers.

Link to consumer guide:

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 393232 - Complaint , TLC Network, 19 Kids and Counting, Indency, Documented Child Molestation 5 young girls, including sister**

**Date: 7/9/2015 4:13:59 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Wantagh, New York 11793**

**Status: Solved**

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## **Description**

Dear FCC

I speak as a mom, a concerned citizen second and lastly, a very angry consumer. There is a network, TLC The Learning Channel, channel 28 on Long Island, Cablevision to be exact, who has produced a show now for a number of years, 19 Kids and Counting. It is supposedly a "family" show. However, what I have learned in the last few weeks is that one of the Duggar children who was 14 at the time, sexually molested four of his sisters, one as young as 5 years of age. This has been documented through the Arkansas Police Department. Records were just released through the Open Public Record Act via the press. This is how we, the consumers, the public were made aware of this sexual abuse. My complaint is that after this abuse was officically documented, in 2006, the family signed a reality TV show contract with TLC and in 2008 the first episode of 19 Kids and Counting was shown on air and we, as parents, consumers who care about children, were deceived into believing that this was a "family show" but it was anything but. We were paying through our cable bill to support a show that has a history beyond the word "indecent" believing we were being shown something children can enjoy watching but then learning that this family hid sexual molestation, a violation of young girls, and presented to us as though nothing ever happened. This is unacceptable. TLC has NOT yet made a statement to formally discontinue filming this show. I am angry right now. I refuse to pay for anything supporting the sexual molestation of a child. By the FCC allowing TLC to continue filming this show would be, as well, supporting the deception that we all experienced, that children experienced learning about this family and also saying that it's okay to victims of abuse for television to call child molestation "entertainment". As well, please note that there is a child labor law on the books in Arkansas that does not allow babies under 15 days to be provided a work permit to protect them. When contacting the Arkansas Department of Labor and confirmed by the Attorney General, however, they have no records of this show in their Department. They confirmed that all production companies must contact them when engaging minors in their projects, so I ask, again, why are there no records? They stated that reality TV can be covered under their law, that all projects are different and they investigate each one. However, again, no records exist. ( I have the letters). No complaints were filed they stated. Dear members of the FCC, consumers are now supporting a show where no complaint was even filed by the authorities while the filming of this show took place. They have documentation that 5 young girls were sexually molested yet they turned their heads when the camera crews showed up at the Duggar home and when the person who molested these young girls, was part of this show, filmed around town near other children as well. FCC, if this is what you expect consumers to pay for, this is wrong and I am complaining and I will not pay to have this network be a part of my bill (but I am not getting anywhere with this fight as my cable provider has no power over this issue) and please do not expect viewers, moms/dads/children to ever watch a show on TV, a family show that is beyond the definition of indecent and through their payment for this service support sexual abuse of a child. What would you like us to tell our children if the filming of this show continues? That our country supports child molestation and allows this to now be part of the

entertainment package in their cable bill? Please do not allow this show to continue and please do not allow any spin-offs of this show as well. There should be background checks with families as well so this never happens again.

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**Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 12:28:20 PM:**

Dear Consumer,

(Please review the links below regarding paid service channels.)

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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Your views and concerns about program material are important to us. You may refile your complaint with this additional information. To expedite our consideration of your complaint, we recommend that you submit it via the FCC's online Consumer Help Center at [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov).

To assist you further, we are including links to information that discusses the law with respect to indecent, profane and obscene broadcasts and our enforcement procedures.

We encourage you to convey your concerns, whether general or program-specific, directly to station management. This can be an effective method to influence a broadcast licensee's programming decisions.

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming-Quick-Facts>

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 391652 - 19 Kids and Counting**

**Date: 7/9/2015 6:53:10 AM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: New York, New York 10001**

**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

Please force 19 kids and counting to be cancelled. The show is promoting deviant behaviour under the guise of Christianity. Thank you

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 12:16:35 PM:**

Dear Consumer,

(Please review the links below regarding paid service channels.)

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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Your views and concerns about program material are important to us. You may refile your complaint with this additional information. To expedite our consideration of your complaint, we recommend that you submit it via the FCC's online Consumer Help Center at [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov).

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 391196 - 19 Kids and Counting**

**Date: 7/8/2015 8:04:07 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Macomb, Illinois 61455**

**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

For years, the Duggars have portrayed themselves on TV in a fashion that is different from reality. The reality of the Duggar family is that they are a member of the Quiverfull movement which believe that women should dress modestly so as not to cause men to think unsavory thoughts. Basically what that means is that women are to blame for sexual abuse. This thinking has to do with the sexual molestation that Josh Duggar perpetrated on his sisters.

Since TLC is unwilling to do what must be done, it now falls on the FCC. Please cancel this show so that the Duggar children are not further subjugated and other families do not attempt to become a part of the Quiverfull movement not knowing how that will affect the women in their families.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/10/2015 9:09:12 AM:**

Thank you for your submission. Your complaint provides the FCC with important information we can use to develop policies to protect consumers, remedy violations of the Communications Act, and encourage future compliance with the law.

We have attached a consumer guide that includes relevant information on the issue you have raised.

As such, no further action is required by the FCC. Your complaint was closed as of today.

Thank you for your submission and help in furthering the FCC's mission on behalf of consumers.

Link to consumer guide:

Cable TV and Offensive Programming - <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming>

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**Ticket: # 390031 - Cancellation of '19 Kids and Counting'**

**Date: 7/8/2015 2:47:43 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Granite Falls, North Carolina 28630**

**Status: Solved**

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## **Description**

The Duggar family represents a fringe group of people who do not follow our prescribed laws and set dangerous precedents for illegal, immoral and felonious behavior. They feel they are above the law; they lied to the government and the public. They hid the truth about Josh Duggar's sexual predator status from TLC.

By allowing this show to continue you will be approving of their fraudulent activities, their hypocrisy and the RAPE OF YOUNG GIRLS!

These people do not reflect what the majority of our population believe in.

This family is disgusting. Please force the cancellation of their show.

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## **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/10/2015 9:12:19 AM:**

Thank you for your submission. Your complaint provides the FCC with important information we can use to develop policies to protect consumers, remedy violations of the Communications Act, and encourage future compliance with the law.

We have attached a consumer guide that includes relevant information on the issue you have raised.

As such, no further action is required by the FCC. Your complaint was closed as of today.

Thank you for your submission and help in furthering the FCC's mission on behalf of consumers.

Link to consumer guide:

Cable TV and Offensive Programming - <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming>

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**Ticket: # 389981 - 19 Kids and Counting**  
**Date: 7/8/2015 2:40:22 PM**  
**Received via: TV**  
**City/State/Zip: Williamsburg, Virginia 23185**  
**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

I agree with the recent complaint against 19 Kids and Counting having not been canceled yet. The Duggars covered up the crimes their son committed until the statute of limitations ran out. They did not obtain proper counseling for the children affected by this, to include their son who committed these acts.

They aggressively pursued exposure via television for their family, touting themselves as being spiritually superior. They wrongfully accused a segment of society as being 'predatory towards children' when they themselves harbored a child predator in their home, forcing the victims to live in close proximity to their abuser.

These people erroneously, yet purposely, present themselves as 'wholesome Christians' living a Christ centered life, but their actions do not bear out those claims.

This family should not be on television. I am extremely disappointed that TLC still has not canceled this show. There is no question that crimes were committed and covered up. This is a blatant case of TLC weighing profits against doing what is right. It is shameful and wrong.

This complaint may not make any difference in getting the Duggars off of television, but at least I've used my voice to try to draw attention to this serious problem.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 12:15:40 PM:**

Dear Consumer,

(Please review the links below regarding paid service channels.)

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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Your views and concerns about program material are important to us. You may refile your complaint with this additional information. To expedite our consideration of your complaint, we recommend that you submit it via the FCC's online Consumer Help Center at [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov).

To assist you further, we are including links to information that discusses the law with respect to indecent, profane and obscene broadcasts and our enforcement procedures.

We encourage you to convey your concerns, whether general or program-specific, directly to station management. This can be an effective method to influence a broadcast licensee's programming decisions.

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 389759 - 19 Kids and Counting on TLC**

**Date: 7/8/2015 1:31:17 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Castor, Louisiana 71016**

**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

Hello, I have heard rumors that TLC is resuming filming of the Duggar family on the show 19 Kids and Counting. I am deeply troubled by these rumors since it would mean that TLC is encouraging citizens of the USA to violate felony laws and commit sexual crimes against children. I do not believe that this indoctrination into illegal and sexually deviant behavior should be broadcast on television. It sends a dangerous message to the youth of America that laws of our country are meaningless and that sexual abuse of children is acceptable. I would like to see this program ceased immediately to protect our children. Thank you for your time.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 12:14:29 PM:**

Dear Consumer,

(Please review the links below regarding paid service channels.)

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 389391 - 19 Kids & Counting**  
**Date: 7/8/2015 12:05:53 PM**  
**Received via: TV**  
**City/State/Zip: Rochester, New York 14621**  
**Status: Solved**

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**Description**

TLC, knowing that Josh Duggar is an admitted serial child molester and that his parents hid it for years, so that the statute of limitations would run out, has been showing this show and has not officially cancelled them from their network. The family is being portrayed as a wholesome family with good Christian values, while it is now publicly known that five little girls were molested under their roof, while they allowed it to happen. This type of hypocrisy and this immoral family should not be on TV, especially in time slots where children can watch. Please take this seriously and investigate this. The victims have had no voice and no way to heal. Thank you.

- - - - -  
**Follow-up message by FCC on 7/13/2015 12:13:47 PM:**

Dear Consumer,

(Please review the links below regarding paid service channels.)

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 389161 - 19 Kids and Counting**

**Date: 7/8/2015 11:00:15 AM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Columbus, Georgia 31903**

**Status: Solved**

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### **Description**

As a victim of child molestation, I find it extremely disgusting and disturbing that 19 Kids and Counting has not yet been cancelled. Simply pulling the shows from their line up is not good enough. Allowing people who covered up their son's crimes to profit from a television show is reprehensible. It's a slap in the face to all victims of sexual abuse.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 7/10/2015 9:13:52 AM:**

Thank you for your submission. Your complaint provides the FCC with important information we can use to develop policies to protect consumers, remedy violations of the Communications Act, and encourage future compliance with the law.

We have attached a consumer guide that includes relevant information on the issue you have raised.

As such, no further action is required by the FCC. Your complaint was closed as of today.

Thank you for your submission and help in furthering the FCC's mission on behalf of consumers.

Link to consumer guide:

Cable TV and Offensive Programming - <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming>

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**Ticket: # 339807 - TLC and 19 kids and counting**

**Date: 6/14/2015 10:28:52 AM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137**

**Status: Closed**

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### **Description**

it was brought to my attention today that the editor of TLC's 19 kids and counting and other shows involving children as on air talent is a convicted child molester. According to his police report and his business page he worked on 19 kids and counting after his conviction. I find that highly inappropriate and possibly illegal. I have some knowledge of the terms given to sex offender paroles and believe he was in violation of his parole. In addition, it does appear TLC was aware of the conviction because the father of the children on another show (Kate plus 8) was outraged and wouldn't allow him to edit his children any longer. The editor in question name is William Blankenship and he has been an editor for many shows involving children. I obviously feel that this show should be cancelled in light of the recent admission by Josh, Michelle and Jimbob Duggar but at this point I strongly urge you to look into TLC and Discovery's lack of protecting the children that are on air talent for their networks. If needed I can provide the police report and career page proving he worked for 19 KAC after his conviction. This is the 5th show on their networks, that I know of, plagued by child sexual abuse. Please look into this. Thank you. [REDACTED]

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 6/15/2015 3:12:41 PM:**

[REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700670-Cable-TV-and-Offensive-Programming-Quick-Facts>

<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 336199 - Investigate Fox News**  
**Date: 6/12/2015 4:59:35 AM**  
**Received via: TV**  
**City/State/Zip: Clarkston, Michigan 48346-2445**  
**Status: Closed**  
**Company Complaining About: AT&T**

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**Description**

Fox News Network knowingly withheld information concerning the Duggar family being investigated by Arkansas DHS and the subsequent 911 call the DHS worker had to make when the Duggars refused to cooperate with the investigation. This endangered the child who was the subject of the investigation.

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**Follow-up message by FCC on 6/12/2015 11:33:48 AM:**

██████████  
Thank you for your submission. Your complaint provides the FCC with important information we can use to develop policies to protect consumers, remedy violations of the Communications Act, and encourage future compliance with the law.

We have attached a consumer guide that includes relevant information on the issue you have raised.

As such, no further action is required by the FCC. Your complaint was closed as of today.

Thank you for your submission and help in furthering the FCC's mission on behalf of consumers.

Link to consumer guide: <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/fcc-and-freedom-speech>

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**Ticket: # 314399 - TLC and 19 kids and counting**

**Date: 5/29/2015 7:12:31 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137**

**Status: Closed**

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### **Description**

I'm sure you are aware of the admission by Josh Duggar of sexuality assaulting 5 young girls including his sisters. I urge the FCC to have this show cancelled. Furthermore I ask that no other shows or spin offs be allowed by any Duggar family members in fear that it would continue to exploit the victims of child sexual abuse. These goes need counseling not to be paraded around on national TV for ratings. Thank you.

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 6/1/2015 8:32:24 AM:**

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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Ticket: # 312673 - Discovery network hiring repeatedly and possibly knowingly, criminal "talent", for family reality shows.

Date: 5/28/2015 9:25:02 PM

Received via: TV

City/State/Zip: Auburn, Nebraska 68305

Status: Closed

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## Description

To whom may concern,

Dear Sir or Madam, first it was the show Honey Boo Boo. Now is the show 19 and counting. The same issue. The parents involved in cover up of child sexual molestation .

When the first show was ousted for some of the talent being involved in doing the abusing, some being abused, and parents covering it up., perpetrators, victims and Adina and abetting complices - the show was immediately cancel. The network never apologized for their negligence in investigating the criminal background, especially for shows that involve children and are sold to the public as family content.

The same thing now with the show 19 and counting, with some glaring exceptions. The show wasn't canceled till the public rose in outrage at the network behavior when the child sexual molestation was made public. They actually ran a marathon, making millions in advertising money, letting the public with the bitter pill of understanding that they supported the criminal behavior and its cover up. For the sake of children's welfare, I believe it is time for the FCC to step in and investigate the Discovery network for its procedures and regulations in hiring especially talent that involves children and adults for the reality shows format.

Reality shows are a fairly new concept, that involve camera in the private lives and homes of individuals. We have seen a lowering in standards of quality broadcasting, because of that. Criminal behavior seems to be paying off on our airwaves , and more and more criminals have a platform and the opportunity to make a fortune with these shows. But child sexual abuse? Some of us are survivors of this crime and to discover that something that you've been sold as pure and family oriented, in fact hides criminal behavior is extremely painful. Our children watch this shows.mhow do we explain the crime their favorite show hid, and the reason why they can't watch it anymore.

How can we protect our children from that. The rating, g,pg, pg 13, r give us an idea if the content is appropriate. But what rating do you put on explaining your child ?

I believe Discovery knew about the DUGGARD family secret, but went ahead anyway. Well, to promote the upcoming show the Duggards were invited on Oprah. But Oprah has been tipped by the sexual abuse situation and turned the family in to child protective services. Than she found out that the allegations were true and never aired the show. A tremendous amount of cover up, that involved the parents, their church, the police department , the CPS seems to have been going on, but mostly because Discovery went ahead with the show, made the rumors that we're going around then, frankly unbelievable. But if Oprah knew, any American viewer finds it impossible to believe that Discovery wasn't informed or at the very least aware through an investigation of their own.

For the children sake please investigate and regulate networks and shows that hire talent ,Manichaeism some of them are victims of this heinous crime. As well as for the protection of the children viewers as well as the adults. We are entitled to know if our money is supporting ex criminals or not.

Discovery is so out of control and obvious at the viewers understandable anger. We've been sold a lie and crime again, and again. Other reality shows have received criticism for being advertised as such, when actually they are scripted and storyline guided. But this is too much.

Please investigate. For the children. for the victims. For the viewers that suffered this crime as children.

Thank you.

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**Follow-up message by FCC on 6/9/2015 1:35:49 PM:**

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**Ticket: # 312097 - concern regarding TLC exploiting sexual abuse victims**  
**Date: 5/28/2015 4:47:22 PM**  
**Received via: TV**  
**City/State/Zip: Muscotah, Kansas 66058**  
**Status: Closed**

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### **Description**

After a week, I do believe its time for your agency to step in take action regarding the situation with TLC and 19 Kids and Counting.

To have Discovery Communications and TLC stay silent on this subject for this long is ridiculous. To publicly support a family who had sexual abuse and the parents cover it up, is not something that should be placed on my television and promoted as wholesome television. Please step in and put pressure on TLC to cancel this program.

Also I believe an investigation needs to be done on TLC to uncover any information that they had any idea of abuse before or during their partnership with this family.

Thank you,

██████████-Muscotah, Ks

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 6/9/2015 2:24:22 PM:**

██████████

Thank you for contacting the FCC to share your concerns about broadcast program material that you find offensive. It is against federal law for a television or radio station to air obscene programming at any time, or to air indecent or profane material during the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The FCC is charged with enforcing the law that governs the broadcast of such material.

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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**Ticket: # 312077 - 19 Kids and Counting (Duggars)**

**Date: 5/28/2015 4:40:13 PM**

**Received via: TV**

**City/State/Zip: Greenville, South Carolina 29615**

**Status: Closed**

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### **Description**

Since TLC and Discovery communications don't seem to care, maybe you can help. In the wake of the molestation charges against one of the family members, this show (and all re-runs) need to be pulled from all stations. To keep playing the show, to show re-runs, to continue as if nothing happened is nothing short of condoning incest/child molestation. The Duggars portrayed themselves as good, wholesome people all the while keeping a dark secret and spreading hatred towards gays, lesbians and transgendered. Please listen to the public and please pull this show and all re-runs from any channel that may play it. Please take a stand against child abuse and hate crimes and remove this show. Thank you!

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### **Follow-up message by FCC on 6/9/2015 2:25:08 PM:**

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**Ticket: # 311885 - Discovery Communications and The Learning Cannel (TLC)**  
**Date: 5/28/2015 3:36:43 PM**  
**Received via: TV**  
**City/State/Zip: Cardiff By The Sea, California 92007**  
**Status: Closed**

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**Description**

Dear FCC,

I really don't know where else to turn. I was lead to believe that 19 kids and counting was a wholesome family show. Now it's been learned that the oldest son Josh Duggar molested his little sisters and at least one other young child. The Oprah show found out about the allegations and turned it over to the police in 2006, who investigated. Oprah did the right thing cancelled the Duggars. Even after all this, Discovery Communications went ahead and aired the family which were presented to the American public as a wholesome, loving Christian family, when all along they must have known that the family was hiding a very dark and horrible secret. This is wrong. I'm asking that you please investigate Discovery Communications of fraudulently deceiving the public. Thank you.

-----  
**Follow-up message by FCC on 5/29/2015 10:19:39 AM:**

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**Follow-up message by Consumer on 5/29/2015 10:58:16 AM:**

Thank you so much for your reply. I will follow your advice [REDACTED]!  
~Throw your heart over the gate and your horse will follow...

On Friday, May 29, 2015 7:19 AM, FCC <consumercomplaints@fcc.gov> wrote:

#yiv9863997454 table td {border-collapse:collapse;}#yiv9863997454 body .filtered99999  
.yiv9863997454directional\_text\_wrapper {direction:rtl;unicode-bidi:embed;}

<b>Form Type</b>	2000E - Media (General) Complaint		
<b>Complaint Number</b>	11-C00336860-1	<b>Complaint Source</b>	Web
<b>Date Received</b>	10/04/2011	<b>Attachments</b>	No
<b>Category</b>	Programming	<b>Subcategory</b>	Content Criticism
<b>Complainant Information</b>			
<b>Complainant Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>City/State/Zip</b>	Beverly	MA	01915
<b>Complaint Information</b>			
<b>Company</b>	TLC Channel		
<b>Call Sign</b>	TLC		
<b>City/State/Zip</b>			
<b>Comments</b>	<p>I am distressed that I have been unable to find an email address or phone number for the TLC channel. Typically, I am able to find contact information and send a complimentary message or suggestion, but this has been difficult. My message to TLC is that I have enjoyed their 19 Kids and Counting show because the Duggar family seems very caring and supportive of each other, but I was so disappointed when they took it to a political level and told the audience that the father was at a "Pro-Life Meeting." Regardless of how the audience feels about this issue, I was stunned that the TLC channel, known for its gentle approach to its audience, would promote such a charged issue. Would you kindly provide me with the TLC contact information, or send my message to them?</p> <p>Thank you. - [REDACTED]</p>		

# #312935 TLC

<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Received via</b>	<b>Requester</b>
May 29, 2015, 8:43 AM	Web Form	[REDACTED]

<b>Status</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Assignee</b>
Closed	-	-	CGB - Indecency your unsolved tickets	[REDACTED]

### Complaint Internal Status

Not Served

<b>Name of TV program</b>	<b>TV Method</b>
19 kids and counting, Here comes Honey Boo Boo, Hoarders, Little People	Cable

<b>TV Issues</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>	<b>Time of Issue</b>
Indecency	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Texas	78628-3537	12:00 am

<b>Date of Issue</b>	<b>Phone (where you can be contacted)</b>	<b>TV channel</b>
May 29	[REDACTED]	37

<b>City Where Program was Viewed/Heard</b>	<b>Network</b>	<b>State Where Program was Viewed/Heard</b>
Georgetown	TLC	Texas

<b>Address 1</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Filing on Behalf of Someone</b>
[REDACTED]	Georgetown	No

[REDACTED] May 29, 8:43 AM

TLC, which used to be known as The Learning Channel, has devolved from a station that used to carry great informational programming to a channel that serves up a constant human freak show with a special emphasis on pedophiles. They have abused the public trust and their license should be REVOKED.

[REDACTED] Jun 9, 12:35 PM

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<https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/203700610-Satellite-Programming-Quick-Facts>

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Support Software by **Zendesk**

<b>Case Information</b>		
<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003693186	<b>IC Number :</b> 13-WB15119741	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Satellite	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Content Criticism
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> PCC66	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 7/13/2013 1:42:00PM
<b>Contact Information</b>		
Consumer Personal Information Omitted		
City / State / Zip : PHENIX CITY AL 36870		
<b>Indecency</b>		
<b>Date of Program :</b> 7/13/2013	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> 280	
<b>Time of Program :</b> 1:00 pm	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Phenix City, Alabama	
<b>Network :</b> TLC summer HD	<b>Program Type :</b> Satellite TV	
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> Here comes Honey Boo Boo		
<b>Case Referred</b>		
<b>Case Referral Agency :</b>	FCC/Enforcement Bureau	
<b>Referral Division/Dept. :</b>	IHD - Investigation & Hearings	
<b>Referral Date :</b>	7/16/2013	
<b>EB/IHD Exported Case :</b>	7/30/2013	
<b>Problem Description</b>		

Direct Tv channel 280 TLC HD on 07/13/2013 aired "A very Boo Halloween" At about the 15 minute mark while discussing the blonde hair of the mother she stands up from the couch and you can very clearly hear her daughter say "ow mother fu\_ker" I understand the show is rated PG-L but I am rather sure that kind of language is not considered PG-L.

**Case Information**

<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003489525	<b>IC Number :</b> 12-WB15057237	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Unknown Media Types	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Content Criticism
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> PCC66	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 10/5/2012 5:20:28AM

**Contact Information**

Consumer Personal Information Omitted

City / State / Zip : KAPOLEI HI 96707

**Indecency**

<b>Date of Program :</b> 10/02/2012	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> TLC
<b>Time of Program :</b> 09:30 PM	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Kapolei, HI
<b>Network :</b> TLC	<b>Program Type :</b> Cable/Satellite
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> 19 Kids, Honey Boo Boo	

**Problem Description**

I believe 19 Kids and Counting and Here Comes Honey Boo Boo are obscene in that they are abhorrent to morality and repulsive to ethical principles. The channel is basically funding parents having an irresponsible amount of kids despite overpopulation and its impending effects. The latter show displays another example of faulty parenting with a mother who parented several children with different men and feeds them unhealthy diets and allows them to participate in unsavory activities. Such programming is a blight upon human civilization and if nothing else can be done, at least the network should be forced to change their name from The Learning Channel, a description which they fail to live up to. It is more of a channel to decrease one's capacity for thought or virtue. I contacted them about this matter before and got no response. I do believe this channel fails to service the public interest.

<b>Case Information</b>		
<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003468410	<b>IC Number :</b> 12-WB15033682	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Broadcast	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Content Criticism
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> TSR42	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 8/31/2012 12:18:41PM
<b>Contact Information</b>		
Consumer Personal Information Omitted		
City / State / Zip : FREDERICKSBURG VA 22406		
<b>Indecency</b>		
<b>Date of Program :</b> 08/29/2012	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> 52	
<b>Time of Program :</b> 10:00PM	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Fredericksburg, VA	
<b>Network :</b> TLC	<b>Program Type :</b> Cable/Satellite	
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> Here Comes Honey Boo Boo		
<b>Problem Description</b>		

This show is another example of how willing and eager this country has become, to sacrifice what we know is right, for a buck. This is not entertainment, it is disgusting. Noone is trying to help this family or these kids. The show is making a mockery of them and the family accepts the abuse eagerly, for the minute of fame. The show is exploiting these children, with little regard for their self-esteem, self-worth, or any lasting consequences in their future. How is this not indecent?

<b>Case Information</b>		
<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003489525	<b>IC Number :</b> 12-WB15057237	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Unknown Media Types	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Content Criticism
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> PCC66	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 10/5/2012 5:20:28AM
<b>Contact Information</b>		
Consumer Personal Information Omitted		
City / State / Zip : KAPOLEI HI 96707		
<b>Indecency</b>		
<b>Date of Program :</b> 10/02/2012	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> TLC	
<b>Time of Program :</b> 09:30 PM	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Kapolei, HI	
<b>Network :</b> TLC	<b>Program Type :</b> Cable/Satellite	
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> 19 Kids, Honey Boo Boo		
<b>Problem Description</b>		

I believe 19 Kids and Counting and Here Comes Honey Boo Boo are obscene in that they are abhorrent to morality and repulsive to ethical principles. The channel is basically funding parents having an irresponsible amount of kids despite overpopulation and its impending effects. The latter show displays another example of faulty parenting with a mother who parented several children with different men and feeds them unhealthy diets and allows them to participate in unsavory activities. Such programming is a blight upon human civilization and if nothing else can be done, at least the network should be forced to change their name from The Learning Channel, a description which they fail to live up to. It is more of a channel to decrease one's capacity for thought or virtue. I contacted them about this matter before and got no response. I do believe this channel fails to service the public interest.

**Case Information**

<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003507141	<b>IC Number :</b> 12-WB15076662	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Broadcast	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Religious
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> TSR29	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 11/4/2012 1:33:53AM

**Contact Information**

Consumer Personal Information Omitted

City / State / Zip : ALLEN TX 75013

**Indecency**

<b>Date of Program :</b> 10/31/2012	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> TLC
<b>Time of Program :</b> 10:30 PM	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Dallas, TX
<b>Network :</b> TLC	<b>Program Type :</b> Cable/Satellite
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> Here Comes Honey Boo Boo	

**Problem Description**

This show promotes religious hatred and is deeply offensive. During a scene in which the family was having a contest drinking from baby bottles, one of the family members declares: "she got Jewed". I am a Jewish american and am deeply offended that this ended up on the air. This show is clearly anti-semetic and should be pulled from the air. This hateful speech is unacceptable in this day and age...if I were African American and derogatory comments were made on air, there would be a tremendous uprising against the show...if I were Muslim or Asian or handicapped...there would be protests. I only ask the same level of respect and consideration for my lineage as anyone else. As a previously government funded channel, this is an egregious failure of the faith of the american tax payers. You should be ashamed for allowing this offensive garbage to remain on the air.

<b>Case Information</b>		
<b>Control ID :</b> CIMS00003524367	<b>IC Number :</b> 12-WB15092949	<b>Submission Method :</b> Web
<b>Level One :</b> Broadcast	<b>Level Two :</b> Programming Issues	<b>Level Three :</b> Content Criticism
<b>Owner Rep Number :</b> TSR42	<b>Creator :</b> cgb.475	<b>Problem Submitted Time :</b> 11/30/2012 7:01:25PM

**Contact Information**  
 Consumer Personal Information Omitted  
 City / State / Zip : PIKEVILLE KY 41501

<b>Indecency</b>	
<b>Date of Program :</b> 08/13/2012	<b>Call Sign/Channel/Frequency :</b> 183
<b>Time of Program :</b> 08:00 PM	<b>City/State of Program :</b> Pikeville, KY
<b>Network :</b> TLC	<b>Program Type :</b> Cable/Satellite
<b>Name of Program/DJ/Personality/Song/Film :</b> Here Comes Honey Boo Boo	

<b>Case Referred</b>	
<b>Case Referral Agency :</b>	FCC/Enforcement Bureau
<b>Referral Division/Dept. :</b>	IHD - Investigation & Hearings
<b>Referral Date :</b>	12/3/2012
<b>EB/IHD Exported Case :</b>	1/8/2013

**Problem Description**  
 The exploitation of a child in this manner should be criminal- and that fact that is allowed to be aired. Please contact TLC regarding to stop programming and cancel the show.

Here Comes Honey Boo Boo

<b>Form Type</b>	2000E - Media (General) Complaint		
<b>Complaint Number</b>	14-C00621417-1	<b>Complaint Source</b>	Web
<b>Date Received</b>	10/14/2014	<b>Attachments</b>	No
<b>Category</b>	Programming	<b>Subcategory</b>	Content Criticism
<b>Complainant Information</b>			
<b>Complainant Name</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>City/State/Zip</b>	Panama City Beach	FL	32413
<b>Complaint Information</b>			
<b>Company</b>	Discovery		
<b>Call Sign</b>			
<b>City/State/Zip</b>	Panama City Beach	FL	
<b>Comments</b>	Family wore shirts that made statements re: abortion. TLC chose to blur the shirts so you couldn't decipher. This is a violation of first amendment rights.		