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Description of document: **Informal complaints about Sex and the City television show made to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Washington, D.C., 2004 - 2007**

Requested date: 29-November-2007

Released date: 15-January-2008

Posted date: 27-January-2008

Date/date range of document: 13-March-2004 – 21-September-2007

Source of document: Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room 1-A836
Washington, D.C. 20554
Phone: 202-418-0440 or 202-418-0212
Fax: 202-418-2826 or 202-418-0521
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Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20554

CGB

January 15, 2008

FOIA 2008-094

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request received by the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC" or "Commission") and assigned to the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau ("CGB") and the Enforcement Bureau (EB) by the Commission's FOIA Office on November 29, 2007. Your request seeks any and all records identifiable as complaints regarding the television program "Sex and the City" contained in one CGB and one EB data base named in your request.

Sharon Jenkins contacted you on December 6, 2007, to discuss your request. She informed you that we could provide only informal complaints received at the Commission from January 2003 to the present and that the fee to process your FOIA request could exceed the \$30.00 maximum fee indicated in your request. As a result of this discussion, you agreed to increase your maximum fee amount from \$30.00 to \$60.00 for the legitimate search and duplication costs associated with the processing of the FOIA request. Ms. Jenkins further informed you that consultation about your request was underway among divisions of the Commission and that the FCC would extend the time period for responding for an additional 10 working days as permitted by the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(6)(B)(iii)(III), and Section 0.461(g)(3) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.461(g)(3).

Sharon Jenkins subsequently contacted you on December 27, 2007, to inform you that fees for EB's search time to identify complaints could exceed the \$60.00 maximum fee limit, and might not produce any complaints that would be substantially different from CGB's complaints. In response, you narrowed the scope of your request by eliminating EB from the request as of December 27, 2007. Specifically, you requested that EB stop its search and provide any documents already identified. You agreed to receive and review the documents that we are enclosing with this response and submit a separate FOIA request at a later date if there is any additional information you wish to obtain from EB.

As Ms. Jenkins advised you, CGB and EB have coordinated to provide a response to your request. CGB conducted a search of the database in which we maintain the records of informal complaints filed by, or on behalf of, consumers. The complaints identified by

our search that are responsive to your request are enclosed. EB has informed CGB that a search of its records conducted up to December 27, 2007, revealed no responsive complaints.

All personal, identifying information relating to the individuals who submitted or are named in the complaints has been redacted pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), and Section 0.457(f) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(f). A release of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(b). In addition, certain FCC employee names have been redacted pursuant to FOIA Exemption 2, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(2), and Section 0.457(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(b).

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 company does not necessarily indicate wrongdoing by the company.

We are required by the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(i), and Section 0.470 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.470, to charge FOIA requesters certain fees, depending on the classification of requesters into one of three categories as defined in Section 0.466 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.466. The categories are: (1) commercial use requesters; (2) educational and noncommercial scientific institution requesters and requesters who are representatives of the news media; and (3) all other requesters. Your request was categorized as "all other requester" by the FCC's FOIA Office. Section 0.470(a)(3) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.470(a)(3), provides that all other requesters are not charged for the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of reproduction. Because your request falls within these guidelines, there are no charges associated with processing it.

If you consider this response to be a denial of your FOIA request, you may file an application for review with the Commission's Office of General Counsel within 30 days, in accordance with Section 0.461(j) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 0.461(j).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole M. McGinnis", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Nicole M. McGinnis
Deputy Bureau Chief
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Enclosures

Complaint Type: Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	07-R534961	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	09/06/2007	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	09/06/2007	Date Assigned:	09/20/2007
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	09/21/2007	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

9/5/2007 6:49:58 PM - Email Acknowledgement sent to [REDACTED] wrote on 9/5/2007 6:31:45 PM : [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; September 7, 2007; ; Complaints and Political Programming Branch; Mass Media Division, Enforcement Bureau; Federal Communications Commission; 445 Twelfth Street, Southwest; Washington, D.C. 20554; ; This is a formal complaint regarding indecency on broadcast television. My complaint concerns the following: PROGRAM: TV's Funniest Moments; NETWORK: Fox ; BROADCAST DATE: August 20, 2007; BROADCAST TIME: 8:00 P.M. Eastern ; MY LOCAL FOX AFFILIATES:; (1) WJBK-TV, Channel 2, Southfield (Detroit), Michigan; (2) WUPW-TV, Channel 36, Toledo, Ohio ; ; Description of Indecency:; A tremendous amount of the "comedy" excerpts on this special (originally broadcast June 1) were culled from such cable shows like Sex and the City and The Chapelle Show. "Notable" clips included a scene from Sex and the City in which a middle-aged woman complains because her pubic hair is turning grey; she later flashes ?Bozo the Bush? to her friend after she accidentally dyes her pubic hair red. In another clip, an episode of Seinfeld in which the cast wager money on which one of them can go longest without masturbating was chosen. ; ; The most disturbing aspect of TV's Funniest Moments came when the second-funniest moment in all of television history was announced: the ?PTV? episode of Fox?s own Family Guy. To claim that such material represents our nation?s sense of humor is absurd. This was nothing more than a shameless media stunt: Fox patted itself on the back, and also pitched an indirect endorsement for the network's (and the industry's) shameless campaign to push the limits of decency in prime time television. ; ; TV's Funniest Moments was videotaped well in advance of its airing. Therefore, the stations that broadcast the program could, and should, have evaluated this special's content before deciding to rebroadcast it; ; A videotape of TV's Funniest Moments is available from the Parents Television Council upon request; ; Complainant respectfully requests that the FCC acknowledge receipt of this complaint, and that the FCC please keep me apprised of the progress and results of your investigation into this matter.; ; Thank you very much.; ; ; Respectfully.; ; ; [REDACTED]; ; ;-----; Moody friends. Drama queens. Your life? Nope! - their life, your story.; Play Sims Stories at Yahoo! Games. ;


Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Southfield	State: MI

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	

Complaint Type: Satellite

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-WB11186168	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/15/2005 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/15/2005	Date Assigned:	11/15/2005
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	03/27/2006
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/28/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed**Complaint Summary:**

Sex and the City was on HBO exclusively but now is on TBS. The commercials/advertising prompts a need for the viewer to watch the lustful and profocative show. Sex and the City is about just that "sex". Womens discussions/thoughts on sex, with scenes of men and womens lusts and adventures on dating, pre-marital sex, sexual encounters etc... Their exclusive website can also be viewed on the websites at tbs and hbo. This show is indecent, profane and obscene to a young viewer during primetime with its images, word choices (language) and sexual content.

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Fort Collins	State: CO

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?


Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies?

Indicate the responsible carrier(s):

Complaint Type: Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-WB11174759	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/14/2005 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/14/2005	Date Assigned:	11/14/2005
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	03/17/2006
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/23/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

I can't believe that a station will play Sex and the City. I ask that the whole show be removed from this regular uhf station. Thanks so much.

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Sugar Land	State: TX

Company Name:	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	Relationship:
	City, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies?

Indicate the responsible carrier(s):

Other Carriers Listed:


Subject Code:

ANALYSIS SECTION

Complaint Type: Unknown Media Type

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-WB11173995	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/14/2005 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/14/2005	Date Assigned:	11/14/2005
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	03/17/2006
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/17/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed**Complaint Summary:**

I am extremely appalled at the television program, "Sex and the City". I cannot believe the extreme amounts of disgusting and immoral images, jokes, and other forms of making sex seem trivial and humorous. This show is diminishing our nation's responsibility to keep society clean and promising for the future. It desensitizes us to that which should be sacred and private. I am humiliated to even have this show airing on national television. Isn't there enough bad happening on the streets of America? There are so many organizations set up to protect the morality of society and the families within. Why should it be okay to show on America's television programming that these acts are normal and that no one should feel badly or take any responsibility for the actions that will bring unhappy consequences (although these are not shown on this TV show, obviously...) I feel strongly that this show is demoralizing those who watch it (especially the youth of America). Is this what we need? There are many other television programs that I feel do the same, but "Sex and the City" is the worst I have seen by far. I plead for your understanding and consideration of this issue. Thank you very much.

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Provo	State: UT

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City, State, Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies') name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies') representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:


Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Complaint Type: Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	06-N97569	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	03/07/2006 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	04/04/2006	Date Assigned:	04/04/2006
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	04/08/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

Hi, ; ; I'd like to file a complaint against a sex and the city ad on TBS at 6:45pm, while children are totally available. ; ; The ad was one of the girls holding up a cheese stick to simbolize a penis, and saying "imagine making love to this every night." I understand that the show is on later in the evening when kids are in bed, but the ad ran during the dinner hour and many kids are available to watch.; ; Is there a law that makes it so the "racier" advertisements need to be shown at a later time?; ; Too early in my opinion.

Apparent Carrier(s)	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City:	State:

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies?


Indicate the responsible carrier(s):

Other Carriers Listed:

Complaint Type: Cable

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-WB11199570	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/21/2005 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/21/2005	Date Assigned:	01/09/2006
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	03/28/2006
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/30/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed**Complaint Summary:**

Our family was watching "Everybody Loves Raymond" and a commercial for Sex and the City came on and showed one of the main characters (I see her in lots of commercials talking about how many men she has had sex with.) talking about how she's been with a woman for too long...she says something like, "all she wants to do is take baths and talk"..or something like that. (The bath part is accurate.) Then the commercial showed two women in the bathtub together sitting spoon style...I would describe this as one woman sitting inside another woman's legs. This is completely offensive to me. All the "Sex in the City" commercials are over the top. It's getting completely ridiculous. Even if a family is watching a sporting event, these commercials come on and just ruin it. I am a mother of 3 boys. This is NOT the ideas I want to convey to them about sex. Please help stop this.

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Hays	State: KS

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies') name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies') representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?


If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies?


Complaint Type:Unknown Media Type

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	06-WB11398079	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	01/23/2006 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	01/23/2006	Date Assigned:	03/08/2006
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/10/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed**Complaint Summary:**

While watching Pretty Woman on TBS, which aired during the hours of 6p.m. and 8 p.m. on January 22, 2006, the word "bulls--" was repeated several times. I have also heard the same term used on TBS during the broadcast of "Sex and the City." (However, the latter program may fall within the "safe harbor"). I was surprised and concerned to hear the language because (1) I did not realize that use of the word bulls-- was allowed on television and (2) even more surprised to hear it used a little after 6 p.m.; I would appreciate any information on what could be done regarding the extremely profane content of the television broadcasts on Turner Broadcasting Systems (TBS). ; Further, I've noticed the use of the same term ("bulls--), along with "F--" on some cable stations. Please inform me on whether this is allowed on cable stations or whether obscenity/profanity regulations apply only to network television.; Sincerely,; 

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Durham	State: NC

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

Complaint Type: Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-WB11174932	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/14/2005	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/14/2005	Date Assigned:	11/14/2005
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	03/17/2006
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	03/20/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

At a time that is television is unquestionably accessible to the children in my house (6:00-6:30 PM), I watched ten minutes of Sex in the City and was absolutely appalled by one scene after another of language and images pertaining to pornography, sex toys, sexual organs, and sexual affairs, all presented in a positive light. This is the first time that I have ever watched this program and I hope that it can be removed from the air or moved to a time where my children don't have a chance to inadvertently come across it.; Thanks very much for your consideration.;

Apparent Carrier(s):

Contact Name: Contact Number: Email Address: PO Box: City: Albuquerque	Best Time to Call: Fax Number: Internet Address: Address: State: NM
---	--

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges?

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges?

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?


Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies?

Indicate the responsible carrier(s):

Complaint Type: Broadcast

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	06-WB12437154	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	11/13/2006 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	11/13/2006	Date Assigned:	11/14/2006
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	Referral
Date Closed:	11/14/2006	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

I would like to know when it became okay to show movie previews that are so violent and profane. Not only do I see them on the television at home, on commercials that are shown while I am watching family shows, such as reruns of Friends, but if I go to see an adult comedy at the movies, I see them there, as well. The problem is that I am not seeking out these types of movies and don't feel I should have to watch these previews, and if my young son is watching television with us, he is exposed to these previews, as well, which show parts from the movies that are very explicit the previews themselves should be rated R just for those parts of content shown on commercials. Isn't there some kind of censoring process for these previews? Also, I do enjoy the show "Sex and the City", but now that it is being rerun on TBS, I was hoping it would also be censored a little because the language is very strong, as well. The only word they actually do censor is "f--", but they leave in the words "sh-" and "a-h--" - this is why I did not watch this show on HBO originally. I have been meaning to address these questions with the FCC for some time, and I finally have a moment to sit down and do it. I would appreciate any information you could provide. Thank you.

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: Spotsylvania	State: VA

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City:State:Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint?

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies') name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies') representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:


Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Complaint Type: Broadcast


Account Type: Residential

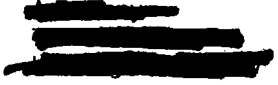
Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	05-R1437279	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	07/13/2005 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	07/13/2005	Date Assigned:	07/13/2005
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	
Date Closed:	07/14/2005	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed

Complaint Summary:

 wrote on 7/13/2005 1:38:19 AM :



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St, S.W.
Complaints and Political Programming Branch
Enforcement Division, Mass Media Bureau
Washington, DC 20554

This is a formal COMPLAINT of indecency on broadcast television. My complaint concerns the PROGRAM ON:

Network: WB
Program Name: Sex and the City
Broadcast Date: this fall
Broadcast Time: 7:30pm PST
My Affiliate: KVWB

Description of Indecency:

Sex and the City is going to air at 7:30 p.m. on this local television station during a time that kids may be done with homework and have the chance to flip channels and land on this one. While I also watch the show (I watched on HBO) I believe it is wrong for this show to be aired so early in the primetime schedule. The show is crude and obviously indecent for younger viewers.

Please think about what message this is sending. This show was on HBO for a reason and although the show is edited, the message of the show is clear and the language is often kept in. Thanks.

COMPLAINANT RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THE FCC ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS COMPLAINT, AND THAT THE FCC KEEP ME INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS AND RESULTS OF YOUR INVESTIGATION INTO THIS MATTER.

Sincerely,




Apparent Carrier(s): 

Complaint Type: Cable

Account Type: Residential

 Congressional Complaint

IC Number:	04-W8661889	Case Type:	Complaint
Date Received:	06/16/2004 	Complainant:	
Date Entered:	06/17/2004	Date Assigned:	06/17/2004
Entered By:		Date Reassigned:	
Assigned To:		Service Date:	
Date Closed:	09/20/2004	Response Date:	
Closed By:		Original Analyst:	
Close Letter Needed?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		Purged Date:

Current Status: Closed**Complaint Summary:**

this complaint is regarding indecent and inappropriate broadcast on June 15th broadcast of the show "Sex and the City" on TBS. TBS is one station I cannot block from my cable since they have comedy shows for the family. But Sex and the City crossed that limit. They were showing male and female buttocks closely (every little detail of it). I understand it was after 10pm. But there should be a limit on how close you want to show a questionable human body part closely. I urge FCC to warn TBS about such type of indecency in their future broadcasts of "sex and the city". I mean families with kids could be watching it, if they have TV's in their rooms. TBS broadcasts programs for children and parents cannot block it. I hope you understand

Apparent Carrier(s):	
Contact Name:	Best Time to Call:
Contact Number:	Fax Number:
Email Address:	Internet Address:
PO Box:	Address:
City: West New York	State: NJ

Company Name:	
	Relationship with the Party:
	City: State: Pr Zip:
Other Party that can be contacted?	
	Relationship:
	City:, State: Zip:
**Amount of credit FCC effort generated:	

Contacted the companies to resolve complaint? No

If yes, name of company, name and number of company representative you spoke with:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with company representative:

If you contacted more than one company to resolve complaint, please list additional company(ies) name(s), name(s) and number(s) of company(ies) representatives and date you spoke to those representatives here:

Name: Phone: Ext:

Date you spoke with the second company representative:

Have you paid any of the disputed charges? No

Did the company billing for these charges adjust or refund some or all of the disputed charges? No

If yes, what was the amount of the adjustment or refund?

Willing to provide further written statements for use of the FCC or other agencies in enforcement actions against companies? No

Indicate the responsible carrier(s): Turner Broadcasting System (TBS)

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM00404631 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000)000-0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 3/15/2004 11:41:28AM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 3/15/2004 11:44:39AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

I think I am correct in my belief that there are no cigarette advertisements allowed on TV. If this is true then how did they get away with a hidden advertisement for Marlboro cigarettes on this final show of Sex and The City. Also I would be interested in knowing if Sarah Jessica Parker got paid for this by the Marlboro Tobacco Co. Please watch this final segment and you will see what I and many others caught. A response would be appreciated.

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM00446619 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 4/13/2004 4:29:39PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 4/13/2004 4:29:59PM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

I feel TV needs to go back to movies of the week and less realist shows. The realist shows, has spin out of control. You are wasting time worrying about Jacket Jackson bust line. These realist shows, has getting off the wall. TV has lost it looks when a high rating show is Sex and the City, which is not a good show at all. Sex was highly put across in this show. I feel the your commission is only for white viewer and not black's. The new Realist TV, has spin out and I think they should be remove from TV ,before something will happened to someone soon that cannot be control. I miss the movies of the week or the movies only applied sex, but do not give it everything away. The talks shows have gone to fall too when seeing half dress men and women. I no you are for rating but again look at your realist tv it is not good for up and coming kids of today.

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM00531089 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 6/23/2004 2:30:56PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 6/23/2004 2:34:15PM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

Subject: TBS - Sex and the City: WAY TOO MUCH!!!

Not sure what is considered decent anymore, but the old guys butt, the language "an easy lay" in another section? Maybe this stuff should stay on cable that I can have the opportunity NOT to subscribe to, and not worry that my kids are watching.

[REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM00543973 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 7/6/2004 9:07:48AM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 7/6/2004 9:08:47AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

My wife and I were appalled when watching 'Sex and the City' on TBS on Tues June 29th at 10pm and the word 'dick' was used numerous times.

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01101228 **Consumer's Name :** [REDACTED]
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 1/18/2005 11:17:41PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 2/10/2005 10:09:19AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 2/10/2005 10:09:19 AM :

Dear Consumer;

Please refer to the attached information.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote on 1/18/2005 11:17:41 PM :

Dear FCC and Commissioners,

I object to allowing CBS to air Without A Trace and somebody to air Sex And The City. They are Porn and directly undermine American family values.

Would you want your sons and daughters to view them?

Don't you feel as though your personal values are under attack by the very programming you allow?

I would appreciate a reply.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01586928 **Consumer's Name :** [REDACTED]
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 9/11/2005 3:55:17PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 11/23/2005 5:52:26AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 9/11/2005 3:55:17 PM :

Gentlemen: We are not prudes, but we feel that TV is going too far with some of the innuendo and also explicit references to sex and male/female sexual relationships. "Sex and the City" in particular is much too explicit even for some older folks. This show mentions much too often parts of the male anatomy and concentrates far too much on sex and not much of anything else. Naturally, hence the show's title. However, there is little offered in the way of other entertainment. If this show must be televised, why not later in the evening when, presumably, school age children are in bed.

Let's try to listen to the majority of viewers rather than the minority who want more of these kinds of shows. That minority can go video stores and rent 'smut'.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01590390 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** ████████████████████
Owner : ████████████████████ **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 9/13/2005 4:07:44PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 9/27/2005 5:10:57PM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

██████████ wrote on 9/27/2005 5:10:57 PM :

Dear Consumer,

Please see the additional information that is being sent to you.

Thank you for contacting the FCC.

██████████ wrote on 9/13/2005 4:07:44 PM :

Please do something about the indecency on cable television. Sex and the City shows are beyond decent. At 8:00 pm, there is nudity on many shows. Most children are still up at 8:00. I am also upset with the advertisements -- they go beyond decency. If we don't get a handle on this, the morality of our country will be a thing of the past. Our children do not need to see this type of thing.

The V-chips and other blocking technology are too complicated for many parents to understand how to use. Please, please don't cave into the cable companies' idea of improved ratings system, or their push for parents to use the blocking technology. They get around this by not rating shows. I tuned into several shows with no rating not realizing they were "R" rated -- but said they were unrated.

My preference is for subscribers to be able to subscribe to those channels they prefer and to be able to block those they find indecent.

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01591291 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :** [REDACTED]
Submitted Time : 9/14/2005 10:54:29AM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 11/22/2005 10:47:33AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 11/22/2005 10:47:33 AM :

Dear Consumer:

Thank you for contacting the Federal Communications Commission to share your concerns about inappropriate program material. It's against federal law to air obscene programming at any time. It is also against federal law to air indecent or profane programming during certain hours. The Commission is charged with enforcing the law that governs these types of broadcasts.

Your views and concerns about program material are important to us. The Commission will review what you have submitted carefully to determine whether it contains sufficient information to suggest that there has been a violation of the obscenity, indecency or profanity laws. If it appears that a violation may have occurred, the Enforcement Bureau will start an investigation, which may include a letter of inquiry to the broadcast station. Further information about the complaint process is available on the Commission's web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/oip/process.html>, and in our consumer fact sheet entitled "Obscene, Profane and Indecent Broadcast," which we have attached for your convenience.

Again, thank you for contacting us about this important issue.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote on 9/14/2005 10:54:29 AM :

Re: "Has Cable Gone Too Far?" By Lyric Wallwork Winik
I do not feel "Sex and the City girls" contributes anything toward a much needed moral up-lift of decency and decorum. It's way past time for Hollywood to put its' clothes back on and teach decency and personal respect.

[REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01594474 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :** [REDACTED]
Submitted Time : 9/15/2005 8:26:51PM **Address 2 :** [REDACTED]
Response End Time : 11/8/2005 3:10:30PM **City/State/Zip :** [REDACTED]

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 11/8/2005 3:10:30 PM :

Dear Consumer,

Consumers should always contact their cable company first when they have a complaint. In many cases, the customer service representatives at their cable company will be able to assist them and solve their problem. The telephone number for their cable company should be on the cable bill. The cable company has jurisdiction over these issues:

Programming carried on the system. With the exception of rules that require cable systems to carry certain local broadcast stations, cable systems decide which programming services to carry.

Local Franchising Authority (LFA) - The FCC and local franchising authorities are responsible for enforcing a variety of cable television regulations. The LFA is the local municipal, county or other government organization that regulates certain aspects of the cable television industry at the state or local level. The name of the LFA may be on the front or back of your cable bill. If this information is not on your bill, contact your cable company or your local town or city hall.

Programming considered indecent, obscene, violent or otherwise offensive to some viewers may be transmitted over cable systems. The FCC Cannot Restrict Non-Broadcast (Cable) Programming.

[REDACTED] wrote on 9/15/2005 8:26:51 PM :

I would like to complain about Sex and the City being available on basic cable and basic satellite programming. I was shocked and disgusted when I saw this program part of mainstream viewing. I would like to make this complaints, in the hope that this type of programming is kept off basic channels. I would like to see fines for these companies.

Sincerely [REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01599050 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 9/19/2005 8:04:54PM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 10/6/2005 2:06:52PM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 10/6/2005 2:06:52 PM :

Dear Ms. Schultz:

Thank you for your e-mail. Your views and comments are important to us and we appreciate you taking the time to forward them. We invite you to visit us at our Web Site located at www.fcc.gov/cgb where you will find a wealth of information on a wide variety of communications-related topics.

[REDACTED] wrote on 9/19/2005 8:04:54 PM :

Gentlemen:

I am unhappy that "Sex and the City" is being aired on WGN Chicago network station. and Had I wanted to watch this type of program, I would have paid for HBO. Instead, I have opted for network viewing because I want to watch shows without nudity and graphic sexual situations.

Thank you for your consideration,
[REDACTED]

ARCHIVED

Problem ID : PROBLEM01734809 **Consumer's Name :** UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
Status : Closed **Phone Number :** (000) 000 - 0000
Submission Method : Email **Email :** [REDACTED]
Owner : [REDACTED] **Address 1 :**
Submitted Time : 12/23/2005 11:36:16AM **Address 2 :**
Response End Time : 12/23/2005 11:46:52AM **City/State/Zip :**

Problem Description

[REDACTED] wrote on 12/23/2005 11:46:52 AM :

Thank you for your email.

I have enclosed information that explains how to file complaints involving indecency, obscenity, and profanity.

(When filing your complaint, please be certain to include all required information.....Your name, address, daytime contact number, the call sign of the station/broadcaster involved, the exact date and time the program aired, and a significant except, transcript, etc. - from the broadcast).

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote on 12/23/2005 11:36:16 AM :

Tuesday night, December 20, 2005, I was watching Sex and the City on TBS. I noticed that the editor did not edit the word "bullshit" from the show. I was appalled and I do not think that word should be heard on "regular" T.V. I told my husband that apparently TBS is now allowing the word "bullshit" on its programs and he said, "Oh yeah, I have heard it quite a bit." I want something done about this before children hear it. All I am asking is for the editors to edit that word as well as the others. What's next? The "f" word? Thank you.

[REDACTED]

--

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.371 / Virus Database: 267.14.5/212 - Release Date: 12/23/2005

<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/broadcast/obscind.html>

Also please see information at:
<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/ihd/>

<<<

[REDACTED] wrote on 7/18/2004 9:40:22 PM :

Dear FCC,

I recently watched an episode of Sex and the City Wednesday night July 14. The show was nonstop sexual humor, innuendo, and explicit discussion on the like and dislikes of giving a blow job. That's right, those exact words were used in the episode. Now while I am no puritan, I do have three school aged children under 13. I do not appreciate the recklessness that TBS has exhibited in their primetime programming. Please examine the contents of the July 14 airing of Sex and the City. I hope that after a review, something can not be done to keep this kind of smut where it belongs, on pay channels out of the reach of my children. I do not relish the possibility of having to explain to my seven and eight year old son or my twelve year old daughter what a blow job is and why adults find humor in it.

vr

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote on 7/18/2004 9:40:22 PM :

Dear FCC,

I recently watched an episode of Sex and the City Wednesday night July 14. The show was nonstop sexual humor, innuendo, and explicit discussion on the like and dislikes of giving a blow job. That's right, those exact words were used in the episode. Now while I am no puritan, I do have three school aged children under 13. I do not appreciate the recklessness that TBS has exhibited in their primetime programming. Please examine the contents of the July 14 airing of Sex and the City. I hope that after a review, something can not be done to keep this kind of smut where it belongs, on pay channels out of the reach of my children. I do not relish the possibility of having to explain to my seven and eight year old son or my twelve year old daughter what a blow job is and why adults find humor in it.

vr

[REDACTED]

Inquiry

Control ID :	PROBLEM00609601	Consumer's Name :	UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
IC Number :		Phone Number :	(000) 000 - 0000
Status :	Closed	Email :	[REDACTED]
Submission Method :	Email	Address 1 :	
Owner :	[REDACTED]	Address 2 :	
Submitted Time :	8/18/2004 10:54:55PM	P. O. Box :	
Response End Time :	8/20/2004 11:21:25AM	City/State/Zip :	

Problem Description

mary.peters wrote on 8/20/2004 11:21:25 AM :

Please refer to the attached information.

[REDACTED] wrote on 8/18/2004 10:54:55 PM :

To whom it may concern:

Small complaint.... TBS aired "Sex and the City" on Aug. 18th, 2004. At 9:47pm CST Kerry (Sarah Jessica Parker) said "Bull Shit" to her boyfriend. I thought this show should be edited for television.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

<META http-equiv=Content-Type content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1">

<STYLE></STYLE>

<BODY bgColor=#ffffff>

To whom it may concern:

Small complaint.... TBS aired "Sex and the City" on Aug. 18th, 2004. At 9:47pm CST Kerry (Sarah Jessica Parker) said "Bull Shit" to her boyfriend. I thought this show should be edited for television.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Complaint

Control ID :	CIMS00000018832	Consumer's Name :	[REDACTED]
IC Number :	06-WB11730035	Phone Number :	[REDACTED]
Status :	Closed	Email :	[REDACTED]
Submission Method :	Web	Address 1 :	[REDACTED]
Owner :	[REDACTED]	Address 2 :	[REDACTED]
Submitted Time :	4/27/2006 1:23:15AM	P. O. Box :	[REDACTED]
Date Closed :	01/29/1970	City/State/Zip :	[REDACTED]

Complaint Summary

Today, while sitting in my college dorm room, watching a movie, a commercial came upon my TV screen that astonished me. It was a commercial for the TBS show "Sex And The City." The commercial shows individuals in different typically "unhappy" circumstances such as hearing for the grocery store clerk that their bill has reached \$700+. After showing a few individuals in similar situations its says, "You would be happy too if you were having sex two times a week," and then it conitnues to say "come get some and watch Sex and the City." I am a student at the North Dakota State University, and I have taken a few mass communications classes and I am aware of the Safe Harbor laws. I feel strongly that this commercial is in violation of these laws. Please keep me up to date with how severe TBS is punished for such irresponsible actions.

A concerned citizen,

[REDACTED]