



TVQ 10 Brisbane

Privacy in news broadcasts

The complaint

The ABA received a written complaint about a segment broadcast on the 'Channel 10 News' concerning film footage that allegedly invaded the complainant's privacy and that of her thirteen year old son.

Decision

The ABA determined that the licensee of TVQ 10, Network Ten Brisbane Pty Ltd:

- breached sub-clause 4.3.5 of the Commercial Television Code of Practice when it broadcast footage of the complainant's son in the front yard of the complainant's home, because it used material relating to his personal or private affairs which invaded his privacy in circumstances where there was

no identifiable public interest reason for the material to be broadcast; and

- did not breach sub-clause 4.3.5 of the code regarding footage the licensee broadcast of the complainant walking in the front yard of her home.

Action taken

The ABA notes that the licensee, in response to the ABA's decision, has advised that it intends to hold a meeting with TVQ 10's reporters and news producers to discuss the ABA's findings and its implications for the reporting of stories involving children with the aim of preventing a recurrence of this breach in future news stories.



'American Pie' promotion

The complaint

In January 2003 the ABA received a written complaint concerning the content of a program promotion for the program 'American Pie' broadcast by commercial television station TVQ, during G classification zones on 7 and 8 November 2002. The promotion depicts a young male's quest to discover sex and find out what 'third base feels like'.

The complainant contended that the promotion contained sexually suggestive imagery and dialogue, which are not appropriate for children or teenagers.

Decision

The ABA determined that on 7 and 8 November 2002 the licensee of TVQ, Network Ten Brisbane Pty Ltd, breached Clause 3.8 of the Commercial Television Code of Practice (the code) for the broadcast of material that amounted to a reference to sexual behaviour that is not of the 'most innocuous kind' nor 'very mild in impact'.

Action taken

The licensee has indicated that it will take the ABA's findings on this matter into account and reinforce the G requirements of the code in relation to program promotions in order to prevent future similar breaches. The ABA will, however, monitor the licensee's and network's compliance with this code provision and may consider further action should subsequent breaches occur.



Investigation reports: breach findings

To view the full report on these investigations, go to the ABA web site:

www.aba.gov.au/tv/investigations/breach_findings/

or

www.aba.gov.au/radio/investigations/breach_findings/

where the reports are arranged according to month of completion.