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TV Choice

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Dear Editor,

Recently the television has been invaded by a host of ridiculous ‘talent’ shows. Having been subjected to the ‘entertainment’ of these talent shows for so long, I wish to put the world to rights: They are a travesty and poisonous to our culture! Weekly, I am forced to suffer through the agony of the X-Factor. These shows present pathetic low-lives who parade around the stage, claiming that they are “doing it for their nan”, in feeble attempts to snatch fifteen minutes of fame. The whole concept is wrong, and this type of show should be banished from our screens forever.

Firstly, the audition rounds are a form of human bear-baiting! Desperate souls look for some form of acceptance from a big shot in the music business, whilst millions at home laugh and cringe at their ridiculous attempts at hitting the right notes! Last week, I had to mute the television as I could no longer stand the screeches of a 43-year-old prison officer from Stoke, who took it upon himself to offer us a rendition of ‘Barbie Girl’. Who wants to hear this nonsense? The only conclusion I can draw is that his friends from the pub heard him at karaoke and dared him to inflict his ‘singing’ on the entire nation!

Furthermore, the shows are clearly fake. The X-Factor and Britain’s Got Talent are littered with deluded individuals who mindlessly moan such lines as “oh please, it’s my life” or “just one more chance”. It’s all an act. I even find myself shouting insults at the television (such as “not even a tear”) when an act breaks down crying after not getting to the next stage. I’m a teacher and if I were to take the same attitude as Simon Cowell every time my students made a mistake I’m sure there would be serious consequences. These shows do not reflect real life and send the wrong message to young people.

Finally, I find it outrageous that so many people fail to see that these shows are nothing more than money-making machines. I understand how the nation can be gripped by a favourite act or an exciting performance. However, I fail to see how the television executives can justify £2.00 per vote. Is it fair that these men make millions whilst the people who vote suffer through the recession, struggling to live? I can’t help but think of the Food Bank in my town centre and how that money could be better spent.

Yours faithfully,

James Lee