

(V-Chip) Whose Victory ?
Frank K Porter Jr 14 June 95

Our lawmakers may soon claim conquest over a prime force assaulting our country. Who will be the victors and who will be the vanquished? Their imposition of the “vice”-chip is an indicator of who is winning and who is not.

The v-chip will secure autonomy and virtual independence from responsible social action for the entertainment industry. Entertainment will claim, with our lawmakers blessing, that societal responsibility is totally ours. Entertainment's dominant theme has been steadily gravitating to the lowest common denominator, overt barbarism, the antithesis of domestic tranquillity. Entertainment, the subtle educator, while it could be a force for social good, prefers instead to emulate the dehumanizing educational role that was provided in the Roman coliseum 20 centuries ago.

The v-chip is touted as responsible society's shield from this dehumanizing educator, as our lawmakers would like us to believe and have us agree. The dehumanizing educator is not contained, sanitized or eliminated. It's appetite will not be slated, rather it's gluttony will be reinforced. Our lawmakers at best, will gain politically in the short term. The truth is that responsible society gains nothing and will be vanquished in the end.

Rational objective assessment of entertainment by an independent review was abandoned not many years ago. The independent reviewers knew the effect that entertainment could have upon us as a society. It recognized the educational influence upon society that the mediums of entertainment held subtly and overtly. It was called censoring and it worked. The industry claimed that it could "rate" itself. The assault was effective, societal foresight collapsed, and it was allowed to do so. A triumph for American freedom and society?

How has society benefited during this period of self regulation? Signs of improvement will escape rational human beings. The liberal thinkers candidly observe the same result. Damage control now includes trying to replace the outlets of the dehumanizing educator (sewer) with faucets. Liberals support the sewer but don't like the criticism. They are trying to convince us that simply keeping the faucets controlled will magically protect us from those who immerse themselves in the sewer with abandon. Political foresight in spades.

The Coliseum in Rome is a monument to an ancient government of “adults” who viewed barbarism as entertainment. Indulgence resulted in lost respect for all human values, which permeated their society and it collapsed. There is little difference between what “adults” watch today and 2000 years ago. And the same argument was probably given. "If you don't like what's going on in the coliseum, don't go in." We as a nation seem also to be turning into what we watch. With our lawmakers blessings, history will continue to repeat itself.

The v-chip is a counterfeit shield. It really means entertainment's "victory"

1997..... The latest “victory”, the television rating system.

September 2000, Congressional hearings, a political sham.

Super Bowl 2004 The latest casualty.....and more politics as usual.

Oct 2004.....”Desperate Houswives”political silence.