

SEX, LIES AND SOAPS

PROGRAMME 2: BAD BEHAVIOUR

ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of some of the forms of bad behaviour frequently seen onscreen in films or TV drama. You will probably be able to add a whole load more. In your group, pick a soap you are all reasonably familiar with. Try and make sure each group picks a different soap. Look down the list and see how many of the behaviours in the list have appeared in storylines in your chosen soap. Some may have appeared more than once – if so, tick for each storyline you can recall; some may not appear at all.

Under-age drinking		Truancy	
Alcohol addiction		Under-age, or otherwise illegal, sex	
Drug addiction		Bullying	
Sex with an inappropriate partner		Murder	
Joy-riding		Rape	
Drug dealing		Fighting	
Smoking		Recreational drug use	
Offensive language		Gang violence	
Organised crime		White-collar crime e.g. fraud	
Petty crime e.g. shoplifting, graffiti		Kidnap	
Racist crime		Gun crime	

When you've gone down the list, compare your findings with other groups who have been looking at different soaps. Do you notice any common patterns? Which forms of bad behaviour seem to feature most regularly in soaps? Which ones *don't* feature?

Try and work out some reasons for your findings. Then watch the programme to see how far your ideas matched those of the producers and teenagers interviewed about bad behaviour in soaps.