

SEX, LIES AND SOAPS

PROGRAMME 4: APPEARANCE

ACTIVITIES

Before watching

Here are some comments about soap opera. Discuss each statement in turn and decide how far you agree with them, using a scale of 1 – 5 where 1 = strongly disagree and 5 = strongly agree.

	1	2	3	4	5
Soaps offer escape from the boring reality of everyday life					
Its enjoyable to watch young and beautiful characters in cool clothes and glamorous settings					
Teenagers in soaps help young people to identify the sort of person they'd like to be					
Girls are more influenced by what they see in soaps than boys					
Soaps can help people to deal with difficult situations they face in real life					
Some people can be influenced by what they see in soap operas					
Watching soaps gives people something to share and talk about					
Soaps can set unrealistic standards of beauty or behaviour which can make young people anxious and dissatisfied with their lives					
It's the storylines in soaps which keep us watching					
Soap characters can encourage bad behaviour and dangerous ideas					
Soap characters can become our friends and role models					
Soaps are only for sad people who have nothing better to do with their time					
Most young people aren't that easily influenced by what they see in soap operas					

How influenced are you by the ways soap characters look, behave and dress? Mark a cross on the line below where you feel you stand:

not in the least influenced mildly interested envious a total wannabe