

Worksheet 1

The Ofcom Programme Code

The Programme Code was originally developed by the ITC (Independent Television Commission) which has since been replaced by Ofcom (Office of Communications). The ITC was required to draw up and enforce a code governing due impartiality and a general code governing the portrayal of violence, appeals for donations and such other matters concerning standard and practice for programmes as the Commission considered appropriate. These are the main section headings in the Code:

Section 1: Offence to Good Taste and Decency, Portrayal of Violence

Section 2: Privacy, gathering of Information, etc.

Section 3: Impartiality

Section 4: Party Political and Parliamentary Broadcasting

Section 5: Terrorism, Crime, Antisocial behaviour, etc.

Section 6: Other legal matters

Section 7: Images of Very Brief Duration

Section 8: Charitable Appeals and Publicity for Charities

Section 9: Religion

Section 10: Other Programme Matters

Section 11: Communication with the Public

The full document may be found at:

www.ofcom.org.uk/codes_guidelines/broadcasting/tv/programme_code/itc_pc_word/