

CJN 400: MEDIA EFFECTS

Due: June 11

Assignment: Measuring TV Violence

Part I

Choose a TV program to measure. You may want to pick something you have on DVD or TiVO so you can watch the program twice, but it is not necessary. As you watch the program indicate on the table (backside) the violent acts you see. Refer to the definitions below to indicate what type of violence is depicted. Also take note of the victim and perpetrator, the reasons for the violence, and what, if any, consequences are shown. If you need more space, replicate the table on a separate sheet of paper and continue recording the acts of violence portrayed.

Part II

Then, in a brief (250 words) statement, explain if the program you watched would be appropriate for children under the age of 12. Why or why not? Please attach your statement to the table and hand them in together. As always, spelling and grammar count. Please type or print out your papers.

DEFINITIONS

Murder and attempted murder (MV). Includes any acts by an individual or group resulting in or intended to result in the death of another person or persons, whether or not the intent to kill is clear. You will have to use your own judgment about intent.

Physical violence (PV) clearly not intended to kill that does not result in death. This includes fist fights and other forms of beating in which the intent is to injure or incapacitate, but not kill. It also includes physical violence done by agents other than persons, such as car accidents, falling objects, etc.

Nonphysical violence (NV). The is primarily verbal abuse, or verbal threats and/or menacing gestures. Do not count when a person reports to another that they have been threatened.

Victim. The character receiving the violence. Please indicate gender, race, age, etc.

Perpetrator. The character delivering the violence. Please indicate gender, race, age, etc.

Reason for violence is the event that provoked the perpetrator.

Consequences of violence. Does the perpetrator suffer any punishment for violent acts? Is anyone seen mourning or showing any emotional response to the violence (this may include the victim or characters who know the victim)?

