

PRESS RELEASE.....mediamarch7.....17 April 2005

mediamarch protest at Channel 4 on 16 April said:

**STOP Channel 4 PORN ! STOP its public funding !
Support our petition and VOTE for family values in the media**

(120,000 signature petition will be handed in to 10 Downing St on 26 April)



The protest was attended by people of several faiths.

Here is Dr A. Majid Katme (centre with green placard) on behalf of the British muslims.

Much of the media, especially Channel 4 with its callous use of porn to boost ratings, has helped contribute to:

- MORE casual sex, record rates of teen pregnancy, STDs, divorce and family breakdown
- MORE crime and ill-discipline, especially among young people
- HIGHER bills for the health and welfare system and the economy
- HIGHER taxes

Channel 4 is at the forefront of the battle being fought for the hearts and minds of our children - where they go, other channels follow. Publicly-owned Ch. 4 is seeking public funding to avoid an anticipated deficit of £100 million over the next 10 years. Ofcom have advised against such funding but we want to reinforce this message (copy of detailed mediamarch letter to Ch 4 available from contacts below). Meanwhile Ch. 4 is going out of its way to overthrow all constraints on programme content: on 6 March Channel 4 kicked off its 'Banned Season' with 'X-Rated - The TV They Tried to Ban', featuring blatant, explicit and depraved sexual imagery and repeated extreme bad language.

A scene showing an aborted human foetus being eaten was deliberately shown twice.

The programme was heavily biased against those who complain, even though the majority do NOT accept explicit sex, violence and bad language in the media - in a recent Sunday Express poll, **90% of respondents said that sexually explicit programmes should be banned.**

WIDER CAMPAIGN

Handing in of 120,000 signature PETITION to 10 DOWNING STREET on Tues 26 April at 2pm.

We are calling on the government to:

- Strengthen the obscenity laws and give the media clear and strict guidelines
- Regulate the media by a single impartial body, that is entirely separate and independent of the industries concerned and able to impose heavy sanctions that can be a real deterrent. (Ofcom does NOT provide this)

Another Petition by Christian group, 'Our Children's Inheritance' will be presented at the same time. They aim to make family and moral values into **key election issues**, very much in line with our own campaign.

Contact information: www.mediamarch.org.uk and Founders of mediamarch -

Mrs Miranda Suit (020 8467 6452 & 07941 947 765) & Mrs Pippa Smith (01452 812585 & 07899 043 474).

Muslim rep - Dr Majid A Katme (07944 240 622)