

# PAY TELEVISION CLASSIFICATIONS AND AUDIENCE ADVISORIES

Pay television means television that is for a fee (i.e. viewers must pay to view the broadcast signal), whether on a subscription or other transaction basis. Pay television broadcasters in New Zealand are required to ensure that programmes are appropriately classified (i.e. rated). The following classifications should be broadcast on all content except news, current affairs, sports and live content. Classifications should be screened at the beginning of each programme and be included in electronic programme guides and accompanying printed guides where possible. Broadcasters should also consider using an audience advisory if the programme content is likely to disturb, distress or offend a significant number of viewers.

## CLASSIFICATIONS

- G** APPROVED FOR GENERAL VIEWING
- PGR** PARENTAL GUIDANCE RECOMMENDED FOR YOUNGER VIEWERS
- M** SUITABLE FOR MATURE AUDIENCES 16 YEARS AND OVER
- 16** PEOPLE UNDER 16 YEARS SHOULD NOT VIEW
- 18** PEOPLE UNDER 18 YEARS SHOULD NOT VIEW

## AUDIENCE ADVISORIES

- C** CONTENT MAY OFFEND
- L** LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND
- V** CONTAINS VIOLENCE
- S** SEXUAL CONTENT MAY OFFEND

## UNCLASSIFIED PROGRAMMING

News, current affairs, sports and live content is not, because of its distinct nature, subject to classification. However, broadcasters must be mindful of children's interests (Standard 3) and other broadcasting standards and include audience advisories (i.e. a warning) where appropriate.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT CLASSIFICATIONS OR AUDIENCE ADVISORIES USED ON PAY TELEVISION SEE [WWW.BSA.GOV.T.NZ](http://WWW.BSA.GOV.T.NZ) OR CALL BSA AT 0800 366 996**