

ABC Blasphemes Jesus With New Show 'GCB'

ABC-TV has taken **blasphemy** against God, the Bible, God's church, and Jesus Christ to new levels of depravity.

The pictured advertisement for ABC's new program, *GCB*, found in a New York subway, not only is a blasphemous use of the biblical command to "Love thy neighbor," it also blasphemes Jesus Christ, who died on a Cross to save the souls of all people who have faith in Him.

Based on the book "Good Christian Bi--s" by Kim Gatlin, *GCB* is about a woman named Amanda Vaughn, played by Leslie Bibb, who returns home to Dallas with her two children after facing marital and financial troubles. *GCB*'s trailers, ads and name suggest this series will not be family friendly or even respectful toward Christians.

According to information about the program received by Movieguide, Amanda is a former "mean girl" who has put the past behind her, while her former classmates and victims have not. They are the new mean girls who are as likely to gossip viciously about their returned rival as they are to offer up a humiliating prayer about her in church.

As soon as their leader Carlene Cockburn, played by Kristin Chenoweth, sees her arrive she calls her friends, smugly gossiping about how Amanda's former husband died in a car crash while having an affair with her best friend. Chenoweth's character then halts the talk saying, "Ladies, it is not appropriate to speak of such things on the phone." After a pause she continues, "I'll see ya in church."

Another clip shows Carlene and her friends confronting Amanda about the moral code of their community. The following scene shows Carlene in an office getting an invitation from a man to

“do it.” Turning **religious pictures** face down, she crawls over the desk, as well as the man, and gives him a heavy kiss. Meanwhile, Amanda’s gun-collecting, shallow mother, played by Annie Potts says, “I feel certain that the good Lord would like me to have a new fur coat.”

Based on the trailers, Amanda Vaughn appears to be the only sane member of this community, and she doesn’t appear to be a practicing Christian. When her mother drags her and her children to church, Amanda tells her mother that she “didn’t raise the kids with any particular religion.” While we all know that there are hypocrites in every institution and every religion, *GCB* uses southern Christian women as the sole, stereotypical examples of self-indulgence, shallowness and **hypocrisy**.

Other scenes show young girls being encouraged to wear revealing tops. When one mother expresses concern that her daughter’s old cheerleader uniform is too tight, Chenoweth’s character tells her not to worry; “cleavage helps your cross hang straight.” Later at the game, the football team cheers when the girl’s vest pops open.

Clearly, this isn’t exactly a message Christian parents would want to send their daughters.

Although the series may prove better than its trailers and name suggest, the fact that *GCB* **ridicules God**, morality and Christians, who are little more than stereotypes, raises concerns for both families and Christians. In this light, everyone should remember that ridicule was a tool that Adolph Hitler used to murder 6 million Jews during World War II.

We urge everyone to call or write a letter complaining about this series (which began airing Sunday night) to the following Disney and ABC executives:

Robert Iger, CEO
The Walt Disney Company

Anne Sweeney, President
Disney-ABC Television Group

Paul Lee, President
ABC Entertainment

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Ted Baehr is chairman of the Christian Film & Television Commission ministry and director of its family guide to movies and entertainment, Movieguide. Both organizations are international non-profit ministries, advocacy groups, and watchdogs dedicated to "redeeming the values of the entertainment industry by influencing industry executives and by informing and equipping the public about the influence of the entertainment media." Each year, their Annual Report to the Entertainment Industry shows that family-friendly movies and television programs with Christian, biblical, redemptive, moral and spiritually uplifting content make the most money and get the highest ratings.