

It's Your Move

US TV sitcom : 1984 : dir. : NBC / Embassy : 22 x 25 min
 prod: Katherine Green & Fred Fox Jr : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Jason Bateman](#)
 David Garrison; Caren Kaye; Tricia Cast

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Halliwell's *Television Companion* review:

"A tricky teenager does his best to prevent Mum from marrying the struggling writer across the hall. A kid who's so fast with one-liners is apt to pall, and the basic premise is thin, so this show had only one season in which to gather its fair quota of laughs. Creators: Ron Leavitt and Michael G Moye"

NAMBLA *Bulletin* - vol. 6/6 - media note (July/Aug 85):

"YOUTH CULTURE: A Chicago Tribune column used TV to point out how the kid-parent role has changed in the last generation. **"Father Knows Best"**, for example, featured parents in authority roles kids looked up to. I would add **"Gentle Ben"** and **"Lassie"**

as examples. Now we have **"It's Your Move"**, where a 13- year-old wheeler-dealer cons everyone in sight to take care of his divorced mother; **"Silver Spoons"**, where the father still plays with elaborate toys; **"Punky Brewster"**, who always get her way by charming the tears out of authorities; **"Charles in Charge"** of a brood abandoned at home by working parents; **"Kate & Allie"**, **"Webster"**, **"Family Ties"**, **"Cosby"**, etc.

[no listing in "History of Television", "How Sweet It Was", "Television's Greatest Hits" or "25 Years of ITV - 1955-1980"]

No further information currently available. A kid runs interference with his mother's plans for remarriage – *that* old chestnut? And it took two "creators" to gestate the idea into a series? **"THE GOODBYE GIRL"** – in which the man is an actor and sharing the same apartment – did brisk box office seven years earlier. No doubt NBC were hoping for similar results, while keeping sleeping arrangements at a more respectable distance. Halliwell never took much trouble to disguise his total indifference to kids in film, so his "apt to pall" judgement should be taken in that context.

Son of a TV producer, Jason Bateman was 15. He made his debut in **"Little House on the Prairie"**, played in **"Silver Spoons"** with Ricky Schroder, and hit the mother lode as Valerie Harper's son in **"Valerie"** (later **"The Hogan Family"**). His films included **"THE FANTASTIC WORLD OF D.C. COLLINS"** (83) and **"POISON IVY"** (85).

See subject index under **MATCHMAKERS / MATCHBREAKERS** and **SITCOMS & SOAPS**.

