

Who's looking After Your Child?

UK TV documentary : 2003 : dir. Diana Muir : : 55 min
prod: Diana Muir : scr: : dir.ph.:

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Radio Times listing:

"Five years ago a Yorkshire Television documentary shocked the public with secretly filmed footage that showed nannies abusing [sic] children in their care. Today it appears that little has changed. This documentary features alarming new footage from America, and uncovers the tragic stories of two British families failed by the child-minding system. There is also an interview challenge for three couples looking to fill a nanny position, which reveals the difficulties faced by parents unaccustomed to employing people."

Still caption:

"Shaken violently as a baby, Emily has suffered severe and permanent damage."

No further information currently available. Broadcast ITV1, April 3 2003. This is precisely what I would categorise as the New Model Pornography, tailored explicitly to women, and which feeds emotional rather than sexual appetites. It is profoundly negative (just as women would argue most male pornography is), emphasising danger, harm, and mistrust. The key-words in the *Radio Times* write-up are "shocked", "abusing", "alarming", "suffered" and "damage", and the incriminating footage is only obtained, presumably, by parents installing covert cameras to spy on their child-minders. Questions about intrusiveness and deception can safely be brushed aside when the safety of our infants is at risk. Scaremongering of this sort is certainly endemic on terrestrial television now, but it's the kind of pornography they **don't** print warnings about in the TV guides.

See subject index under **CRUELTY / NEGLECT / MALTREATMENT, DOCUMENTARIES** and **NANNIES / GOVERNESSES / DOMESTIC SERVANTS** (not all of whom, it should be added, handle babies like maracas.)