DESCRIPTION

Combining cutting-edge theories of culture and government with programming examples—including *Todd TV*, *Survivor*, and *American Idol*—*Better Living through Reality TV* moves beyond the established concerns of political economy and cultural studies to conceptualize television's evolving role in the contemporary period.

- A major textbook on the impact of reality and lifestyle television on today’s programming, and on broader social, cultural and political trends
- Draws on a range of examples from *The Apprentice* and *American Idol* to *Extreme Makeover* and *Wife Swap*
- Argues that reality television teaches viewers to monitor, motivate, improve, transform and protect themselves in the name of freedom, enterprise, and personal responsibility

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**FEATUERS**

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- Moves beyond the established concerns of political economy and cultural studies to capture television's evolving role in the modern world

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