

call the midwife parents guide

Call the Midwife Parents Guide is a comprehensive resource designed to help parents navigate the engaging yet sometimes challenging content presented in the beloved British television series. "Call the Midwife" is renowned for its heartwarming stories, rich character development, and historical context, all set against the backdrop of post-war London. However, its themes and subject matter may not be suitable for all audiences, particularly younger viewers. This guide aims to provide parents with essential information to make informed decisions about the show's appropriateness for their families.

Understanding the Show's Premise

"Call the Midwife" is based on the memoirs of Jennifer Worth and follows a group of midwives working in the East End of London during the 1950s and 1960s. The show features a blend of medical drama, social issues, and personal stories that reflect the changing dynamics of society during that era.

Main Themes

1. **Childbirth and Midwifery:** The show offers a realistic depiction of childbirth and the role of midwives. While it celebrates the miracle of life, it does not shy away from the challenges and complications that can arise during pregnancy and delivery.
2. **Social Issues:** Each episode often explores various social issues such as poverty, racism, and women's rights. These themes provide a historical context and provoke thoughtful discussions about societal changes over time.
3. **Family and Community:** The importance of family and community support is a recurring theme, showcasing how relationships can influence the experience of motherhood and childhood.

Content Considerations

As a parent, it's crucial to be aware of the content and themes presented throughout the series. Here are some significant considerations:

Age Appropriateness

The show is rated TV-PG in the United States, which suggests parental guidance is recommended. While many episodes are suitable for older children and teens, there are moments that can be intense or distressing. Here are some factors to consider:

- **Mature Themes:** Topics such as unwanted pregnancies, abortion, and maternal mortality are

addressed, which may be upsetting for younger viewers.

- Historical Context: Some content may reflect outdated social norms or attitudes, which could necessitate discussions about historical perspectives versus modern views.
- Emotional Impact: The show often portrays challenging life circumstances, which can evoke strong emotional responses from viewers.

Language and Behavior

The dialogue in "Call the Midwife" is generally respectful, but it can occasionally include mild profanity or derogatory terms reflective of the time period. Parents might want to prepare their children for:

- Period-Appropriate Language: Some phrases and terms used may not be suitable in today's context but are essential to understanding the historical setting.
- Character Behavior: The characters occasionally face moral dilemmas, and how they resolve these issues may prompt discussions about ethics and personal values.

Discussion Topics for Parents and Children

Having conversations about the show's content can enhance understanding and help children process what they watch. Here are some discussion topics to consider:

1. Childbirth and Reproductive Health:

- Discuss the different aspects of childbirth depicted in the show.
- Explore the importance of midwives and the evolution of reproductive health care.

2. Social Issues and Historical Context:

- Talk about the social issues presented in the series and how they compare to today's society.
- Encourage critical thinking about how societal attitudes toward women and families have changed over time.

3. Family Dynamics:

- Reflect on the importance of family support during difficult times.
- Discuss how characters in the show rely on each other and what that means for real-life relationships.

Parental Guidance Tips

To ensure a positive viewing experience, parents can implement several strategies:

Watch Together

Watching "Call the Midwife" as a family can facilitate open discussions about the content. This allows parents to:

- Provide context and explanations when necessary.
- Discuss any questions or concerns that arise during the episodes.

Set Boundaries

Establishing guidelines for viewing can help manage expectations:

- **Decide on Appropriate Ages:** Determine which family members will watch the show and at what age they can begin.
- **Create a Viewing Schedule:** Plan specific times to watch the series to maintain control over content consumption.

Resources for Further Exploration

To enhance understanding and context regarding the themes presented in "Call the Midwife," consider the following resources:

- **Books:** Jennifer Worth's memoirs provide a deeper insight into her experiences as a midwife and the historical context.
- **Documentaries:** Look for documentaries about midwifery, childbirth history, and social issues in post-war Britain.
- **Articles and Journals:** Explore academic articles and journals focusing on midwifery practices and historical societal changes.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Call the Midwife Parents Guide serves as a valuable tool for families considering this emotionally rich and thought-provoking series. Understanding the show's themes, content, and potential emotional impact is essential for making informed viewing choices. By engaging in discussions and setting appropriate boundaries, parents can provide a supportive viewing environment that promotes learning and growth. Ultimately, "Call the Midwife" can be a wonderful opportunity for families to connect and explore important topics together, enriching their understanding of history, health, and human relationships.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Call the Midwife' about?

'Call the Midwife' is a British period drama series based on the memoirs of Jennifer Worth, depicting the lives of midwives working in the East End of London during the 1950s and 1960s.

Is 'Call the Midwife' suitable for children?

The series is rated TV-14, meaning it may not be suitable for children under 14 due to mature themes, including childbirth, medical procedures, and social issues of the time.

What age group is 'Call the Midwife' appropriate for?

'Call the Midwife' is generally considered appropriate for teenagers and adults, but parental guidance is advised for younger viewers due to its sensitive content.

Does 'Call the Midwife' contain any graphic content?

Yes, the show contains some graphic scenes related to childbirth and medical emergencies, which may be distressing for some viewers.

Are there any educational themes in 'Call the Midwife'?

Yes, the series addresses important historical and social issues, providing insights into healthcare, women's rights, and the evolution of midwifery, making it both entertaining and educational.

How can parents discuss the themes of 'Call the Midwife' with their children?

Parents can engage in discussions about the historical context, medical practices, and social issues depicted in the show, encouraging open dialogue about the challenges faced by women and families in that era.

Is there a parental guide available for 'Call the Midwife'?

Yes, various parenting websites and review platforms provide parental guides that outline the content, themes, and potential triggers in 'Call the Midwife' to help parents make informed viewing choices.

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