Sacred Heart University

From the SelectedWorks of Lori Bindig

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Lori Bindig's Critical Analysis of Gossip Girl

Morgan Debelle Duplan, Staff Reporter

Available at: https://works.bepress.com/lori_bindig/9/
Lori Bindig, an assistant professor of Communications and Media Studies at Sacred Heart, has added an interesting new addition to her collection of publications.

Bindig received her doctorate in Communication at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She received her master’s in Communication and her bachelor’s degree in American Studies and Musical Theatre from the University of Hartford. Bindig received her Graduate Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

She is also the director of media literacy and digital culture graduate program and the performing arts minor at Sacred Heart.

Previous publications include “Dawson’s Creek: A Critical Understanding” and “The O.C.: A Critical Understanding.” Bindig focuses on the impact the media has on youth culture.
Bindig explains, “A lot of times people think it’s silly to study television shows. They say that they’re just entertainment. But people spend more time with media than they do with anything else except working and sleeping. Because we’re so immersed in media culture it’s imperative that we understand the motivations of the people who create the media we watch, the underlying values that the media promote (that we often take for granted), and the impact media make on our lives.”


“In particular, teen television programs are targeted to young people who are just starting to form their worldviews. Media is a key socializing agent so it’s important to understand how popular teen media, like Gossip Girl, might help shape teens’ world views,” said Bindig.

Not only does Bindig enjoy watching television, but she also enjoys studying and writing books focusing on the important underlying views within television and their impact on culture. She also explained that it wasn’t hard to watch Gossip Girl because of the funny quips, crazy drama and, of course, the gorgeous clothes.

“In terms of the underlying values that ‘Gossip Girl’ presents, I find the show incredibly problematic. My overall findings were that the show was incredibly narrow and stereotypical in its depictions of gender, race, class and sexuality,” said Bindig when asked whether or not she agreed with the underlying values presented by Gossip Girl.

“I really like focusing on this genre of television so I am already planning my next book on ABC Family’s ‘Pretty Little Liars,’” said Bindig.

The book is available for sale through Amazon and other book retailers.

Tags Lori Bindig’s Critical Analysis of Gossip Girl, Morgan Debelle Duplan