The series depicts the [dysfunctional family](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dysfunctional_family) of Frank Gallagher, a single father of six children. While he spends his days drunk or in search of misadventures, his kids learn to take care of themselves.

The show's producers sought to distinguish it from previous American [working-class](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Working-class) shows by highlighting how Frank's [alcoholism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alcoholism) affects his family.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shameless_(U.S._TV_series)#cite_note-rochlin-2) [Paul Abbott](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Abbott), the show's creator, has said, "It's not [*My Name Is Earl*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Name_Is_Earl) or [*Roseanne*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roseanne_(TV_series))*.* It's got a much graver level of poverty attached to it. It's not [blue collar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_collar); it's no collar."[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shameless_(U.S._TV_series)#cite_note-rochlin-2) When [John Wells](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wells_(TV_producer)), the showrunner, began pitching the show, he had to fight efforts to place the show in the South or in a [trailer park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trailer_park). He explained, "We have a comedic tradition of making fun of the people in those worlds. The reality is that these people aren't 'the other' – they're people who live four blocks down from you and two blocks over".[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shameless_(U.S._TV_series)#cite_note-rochlin-2)

The Electromagnetic Railgun INP was initiated in 2005. The goal during Phase I, a proof-of-concept demonstration at 32 mega-joule muzzle energy, has been achieved. A future weapon system at this energy level would be capable of launching a 100+ nautical mile projectile. This launch energy has the advantage of being able to stress many components to evaluate full-scale mechanical and electromagnetic forces.

Phase I was focused on the development of launcher technology with adequate service life, development of reliable pulsed power technology and component risk reduction for the projectile.

Phase II, which started in 2012, will advance the technology for transition to an acquisition program. Phase II technology efforts will concentrate on demonstrating a rep-rate fire capability. Thermal management techniques required for sustained firing rates will be developed for both the launcher system and the pulsed power system.

The railgun is a true warfighter game changer. Wide-area coverage, exceptionally quick response and very deep magazines will extend the reach and lethality of ships armed with this technology.