Impact of Television on youth.

*“Nobody knows where you might end up,*

*Nobody knows..”*

I assure you this isn’t the beginning of a philosophical essay, it’s just the title track to my favorite television show, “*Grey’s Anatomy”.* Now what exactly is “*Grey’s Anatomy?”* Well, it’s this television show that aired primarily on “*abc”* a couple of years ago, but is being rerun till date, with its Season 10 being shot currently. Coming back to the song, I was humming the tune and singing every “*oh.”* All of a sudden, it struck me. If you say “*Grey’s,”* I’ll start talking about how good Ellen Pompeo looked in last night’s episode. If you say “*Tree”* or *“Hill,”* and all I’ll be able to think of is why Lucas and Peyton, the lead characters of “*One Tree Hill,”* are fighting.

I spell ‘gray’ with an ‘e.’ I know what scrubs are, and the only reason why I could score a 16 out of 25 in my “*Your time in a hospital,”* essay was because Meredith Grey and her journey in *Seattle Grace Hospital* didn’t just become a part of my life, it eventually influenced it.

But *Grey’s Anatomy* and I was just an example. This is the situation that every teenager with access to a television and cable finds himself in.

Watching television has become more than a mode of passing time. It became a passion, and slowly, it became an addiction. Each person has his special time slots reserved for a favourite series, film, sitcom, sports event, or reality show. “Who watches the television?”, is the root cause of 19% of fights within the family.

Coming to the topic, let’s focus on today’s youth.

Rape. Harassment. Murder. These are words that are common for them. Why? Television brings out issues that Indian society has kept hushed. Not just the news, but shows like [V] Gumrah serve as a channel to bring these issues forward. And the increased awareness of these issues in the youth isn’t a bad thing. It is a major bonus that teenagers choose shows like these over melodramatic soaps. The youth are more independent and confident with themselves.

But like everything, the impact of television has another face, the ugly side of the coin.

Girls getting pregnant at 16, a regular intake of alcohol, are habits that aren’t openly accepted in Indian Society, but they’re being shown on foreign shows. The effect of such shows and films can be drastic in some cases. The youth could start believing that such things are okay. Inappropriate information about inappropriate subjects reaches the youth at inappropriate ages. This has led to rise in juvenile rapes, harassment cases and so much more. In the end, isn’t it this side of the two faced world that proves the most disastrous?