

Media Release

16 November 2015

BSA finds no privacy breach in broadcast of *Campbell Live* Gloriavale visit

The Broadcasting Standards Authority did not uphold a complaint that footage of a *Campbell Live* reporter visiting Gloriavale Christian Community and speaking to two senior community members breached the members' privacy.

The reporter visited Gloriavale unannounced as part of a *Campbell Live* investigation into allegations of misconduct within the community made during two earlier interviews with a former Gloriavale resident. The reporter had a conversation with the two senior Gloriavale members about these allegations, but did not inform them that they were being filmed. Footage and audio of their conversation was then broadcast.

Overall the BSA reached the view that the footage did not disclose any private information about the members or intrude on their privacy in a manner that was highly offensive.

The BSA noted in its decision its discomfort at the covert way in which the footage was obtained, but on balance found this did not make the disclosure of the footage highly offensive. *Campbell Live* had made several unsuccessful requests to interview a member of the Gloriavale community prior to the reporter's visit, and the BSA considered the broadcaster had a reasonable belief that the only way to obtain comment was to visit the community in person.

The BSA also considered it relevant that Gloriavale was likely to have been aware of the *Campbell Live* investigation, and that the two community members engaged willingly and courteously with the reporter and at no point objected to the filming or his presence.

In addition, the BSA noted there was public interest in the broadcast and in

the footage of the Gloriavale community members.

'Serious allegations were made about individuals within the Gloriavale community and *Campbell Live* raised legitimate questions about the community's response – or lack thereof – to these allegations,' the BSA said.

ENDS

For more information contact Nicole Hickman on 027 313 0179.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The full decision is available at <http://bsa.govt.nz/decisions/latest>.

ABOUT THE BROADCASTING STANDARDS AUTHORITY

The Broadcasting Standards Authority is an independent body that oversees the broadcasting standards regime in New Zealand. We do this by determining complaints that broadcasts have breached standards, by doing research and also by providing information about broadcasting standards.

We are essentially an appeal body, which is why complaints generally go to the broadcaster first (with the exception of privacy issues and election advertisements).

The Authority members who determined this complaint were Peter Radich (Chair), Leigh Pearson, Te Rau Kupenga and Paula Rose.

For more information see our website: <http://bsa.govt.nz/>