

# PAY TELEVISION

## CLASSIFICATIONS AND WARNINGS

Pay television broadcasters (TV you need to subscribe to get) in New Zealand are required to ensure that programmes are appropriately classified (ie. rated). They must use one of the agreed classification symbols (set out below) and must display this at the beginning of each programme and in all electronic programme guides and printed guides where possible. They must also consider using a warning label if the programme content may distress or offend a number of people.

For the purposes of these classifications a **child** means a boy or girl under the age of 14 years.

### CLASSIFICATIONS

- G** APPROVED FOR GENERAL VIEWING
- PG** PARENTAL GUIDANCE RECOMMENDED FOR YOUNGER VIEWERS
- M** SUITABLE FOR MATURE AUDIENCES 16 YEARS AND OVER
- 16** PEOPLE UNDER 16 YEARS SHOULD NOT VIEW
- 18** PEOPLE UNDER 18 YEARS SHOULD NOT VIEW

### WARNING LABELS

- C** CONTENT MAY OFFEND
- L** LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND
- V** CONTAINS VIOLENCE
- VL** VIOLENCE AND LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND
- S** SEXUAL CONTENT MAY OFFEND

### UNCLASSIFIED PROGRAMMING

#### News and Current Affairs

News and current affairs programmes are not required to be classified. However, broadcasters must be mindful that young people may be watching during children's ordinary viewing hours and should give consideration to including warnings where appropriate.

#### Sports and Live Programmes

Sports and live programmes are not classified but broadcasters must take all reasonable steps to ensure the programme conforms to the timeslot in which it is being shown.

If you have any other questions about classifications or warnings used on pay television see [www.bsa.govt.nz](http://www.bsa.govt.nz) or call the BSA at 0800 366 996.