

NWC response to BBC  
 please add/subtract/  
 amend.

- Support the view that Party Political Broadcasts be concentrated during electoral periods. B
- Having said that, we believe it is important to realise that this review has been concerned with Party Political Broadcasts and Party Election Broadcasts alone.
- This is an unrealistic context within which to examine the exposure of the public to the views and principles of political parties seeking to represent them. PPBs are largely the 'icing on the cake', building on and providing direct communication between political party and electorate.
- If the year-round news values have excluded new or minority voices in favour of the old established ones (and it would be difficult to do otherwise unless one specifically and consciously chose to), then PPBs and PEBs from new and smaller parties are building on nothing but a vacuum and dearth of coverage. Inevitably, therefore, access to PPBs and PRBs have quite different meanings for new and small voices. Equally, in attempting to address this, the solution does not rest within the context of PPBs and PEBs but is intimately connected to them.
- The specific concern for the Women's Coalition in the above context is the representation of women.
- Regional assemblies, in their very existence, encourage local and more diverse views. Broadcasts should reflect this and should reflect the 'new' circumstances and associated new issues that will undoubtedly emerge.
- Issues of threshold adversely effect new political groupings- to raise the threshold is to work against the new. to lower the threshold is to facilitate the new. Whichever is decided upon the Women's Coalition demands that the 'principles' upon which every decision is taken be expressed. The Women's Coalition urges that the threshold be kept low (to reflect the increasing regionalisation within the UK)

Deadline for faxing/sending

→ Friday

(p.s. imposed by Barbara + Robin).