

DECEPTION

TIME

# Reality TV



Jordan Smith

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# Table of Contents

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Reality...Or Is It? ..... | 4  |
| Altering Reality .....    | 8  |
| Find Your Passion .....   | 12 |
| Not Just for Adults.....  | 19 |
| Who Has Your Vote?.....   | 24 |
| All in the Family.....    | 35 |
| Your Reality .....        | 40 |
| Glossary.....             | 42 |
| Index.....                | 44 |
| Check It Out! .....       | 46 |
| Try It! .....             | 47 |
| About the Author.....     | 48 |



# Reality...Or Is It?

When you turn on the television, what kinds of shows are you drawn to? Choices range from comedies, dramas, game shows, documentaries, sports, and more. Then, there is a category of television that people may not admit to watching—reality TV. Celebrities have been created by this **genre**. Some reality stars are talented musicians, singers, chefs, home renovators, and hair stylists. Others are famous simply for sharing every aspect of their lives with the public.

Many of us are drawn to reality TV. We check out what our favorite reality star is up to. Or we root and vote for our favorite contestants on competition shows.

A common **misconception** is that reality TV is only about following the **lavish** lives of the rich and famous. But it is much more than this. Whether your interests lean toward music, baking, or fashion design, reality TV has something for everyone.

## A Long History

Reality TV has been around almost as long as TVs. The television was first shown to the public in 1927. The first reality show debuted in 1948.



## Too Much TV?

A recent study measured the amount of time teens watch television. The average kid aged 12 to 17 watches over 15 hours of TV per week. Teens spend more time watching TV than doing any other activity except sleeping.

For most of these countries, it is the main source of