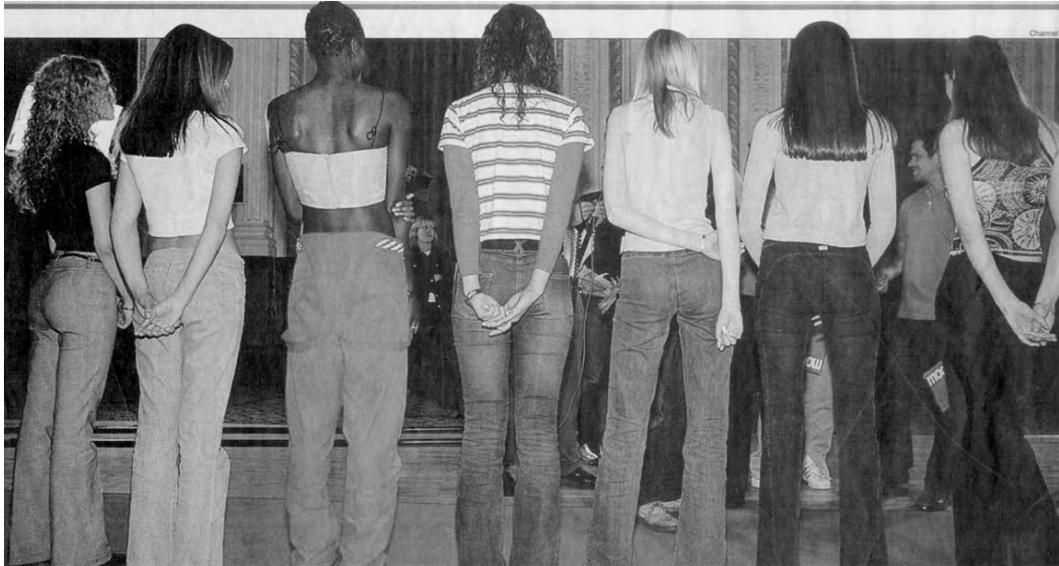


## Tekst 7

### NEWS REVIEW



Body shop: teenage girls compete against each other in front of the TV cameras

## Models of bad behaviour

1 The call from the production  
company came earlier in the  
summer. How would I like to  
be the in-house psychotherapist for a  
new Channel 4 television series,  
Model Behaviour?

2 The series set out to select girls  
from competing heats up and down  
the country, choosing the five most  
likely to make it in the modelling  
industry. The finalists were then to  
be locked in a house together while  
we the viewers watched them bite  
and scratch and fall apart on the way  
to one of them receiving a year's  
modelling contract with Premier, the  
agency that represents Naomi  
Campbell and Claudia Schiffer.

3 But, the caller said, a few of  
them might find some of this competition  
a little tricky, and that's  
where I came in. I was to  
counsel, support and presumably  
explain these traumatised contestants  
to themselves and to the  
viewing audience.

4 I put the phone down and  
called colleagues. Suppose I  
were able to use the programme to  
make some serious comments about  
the exploitation of girls' bodies?  
Suppose I could talk about what it  
does to an individual and a gender to  
be construed primarily by the way  
they looked? Suppose I could get  
access to that 90% of the teenage  
population who suffer from anxiety  
about the size and shape of their  
bodies?

5 40 Nice idea, but this programme  
was going to be what we are now  
calling "reality television". I called

the production company and  
declined its offer, for the reality isn't  
okay. These girls – adolescent minds  
in barely mature bodies – live in a  
culture that mercilessly looks at the  
female form and then stops right  
there.

6 50 The series is being shown at the  
moment and, while the girls were  
eventually supplied with a resident  
psychologist, that person's thoughts  
were in the end not edited into the  
programmes.

7 The programmes invite us to  
look at girls who are vying with  
each other to be looked at; looking  
at the blood on the carpet and the  
tears before bedtime as they  
compete with their rivals and are  
savaged by the judges. For reality  
television is only really interesting if

**Carole Topolski**, asked to be resident  
psychotherapist in the latest reality TV show,  
about the modelling industry, is now heartily  
relieved that she turned the offer down

8 someone gets upset, and we know  
that tears and cat claws go with the  
female like bread goes with butter.

9 I wonder what Channel 4 was  
hoping for. The eye of the camera  
may pretend that it is interested in  
success, but actually it revels in  
failure: the girl with human-sized  
hips who collapses weeping when  
told she should take up hippo  
impersonation; the girl with strong  
legs whose life shatters when she's  
contrasted unfavourably to a twig.  
And presumably behind the scenes

the psychologist is reassuring the  
tearful girl that she is not a failure,  
it's only a television programme.

10 And what are we doing watching  
these girls? What, if not buying  
wholesale into the notion that you  
are how you look, that being looked  
at is what constitutes female  
success. Model Behaviour is not  
only a television programme, it's an  
observation on how an industry  
grows up to reflect how a culture  
sees its girls and women: how girls  
and women have to be to be seen.

11 And, be very certain, the girls in  
the show know they're being looked  
at – that, after all, is why they are  
there – and by the end of the series  
most will also know defeat and  
rejection on the basis of their  
appearance.

12 "By the end," says the  
series producer Justin Gore-  
man, "a lot of these girls  
realised that modelling  
wasn't for them. They all  
leave the show older and  
wiser." I bet they do.

13 This, then, is what passes for  
entertainment in the 21st century.  
We've moved way beyond enjoying  
the spectacle of Christians being  
thrown to the lions on the dusty  
floor of the Colosseum and now  
cheer ourselves with a spectacle of  
young girls being emotionally  
drained, their body parts fragmented  
and discarded on television screens  
in our front rooms.

I am relieved I had no part in it.

*'The Sunday Times'*

## ■ Tekst 7 Models of bad behaviour

- 1p 29  Wat was de hoofdprijs van de serie *Model Behaviour*?
- ”How would I like to be the in-house psychotherapist” (regels 3-4)
- 1p 30  Wat zou deze functie inhouden?  
Citeer de eerste twee en de laatste twee woorden van de zin waarin dit duidelijk wordt gemaakt.
- 1p 31 ■ What is paragraph 4 mainly about?  
A The critical questions of fellow therapists whom the writer phoned about *Model Behaviour*.  
B The doubts that the writer had about the acceptability of the formula of *Model Behaviour*.  
C The writer’s fantasies about the influence that she might have on the viewers of *Model Behaviour*.  
D The writer’s ideas about how much support she could give the *Model Behaviour* competitors.
- 1p 32 ■ How could the sentence ‘These girls ... right there.’ (lines 45-49) also begin?  
A After all, these girls...  
B However, these girls...  
C Moreover, these girls...
- 1p 33 ■ Which of the following is paragraph 6 meant to suggest?  
A The girls on the programme hardly needed any psychological support.  
B The psychotherapist selected by the programme makers was rather inferior.  
C The writer had rightly turned down the production company’s offer.
- 1p 34 ■ What does the writer suggest about *Model Behaviour* in paragraphs 7 and 8?  
A It harms both the girls who take part and sensitive girls who watch it.  
B It is an excellent preparation for the tough world of modelling.  
C It plays on the delight that viewers take in watching other people’s misery.  
D It rewards its contestants for bringing out the worst in themselves.
- 1p 35 ■ Welke uitdrukking past bij het gevoel dat de schrijfster overbrengt in de zin ”And presumably ... television programme.” (regels 77-80)?  
A ”Eind goed, al goed!”  
B ”Schrale troost!”  
C ”Verdiende loon!”
- 1p 36 ■ What is the writer’s main point in paragraph 9?  
A Girls and women who watch *Model Behaviour* betray their own sex.  
B Our society attaches too much value to girls’ and women’s appearance.  
C Reality TV wrongly promotes the idea that beautiful girls will make it in life.
- 1p 37  Citeer de zin of het zinsgedeelte uit alinea 10 of 11 dat sarcastisch van toon is.
- 1p 38 ■ Welke van de onderstaande uitspraken geven een schrijfdoel weer van het artikel *Models of bad behaviour*?  
1 Bepaalde vormen van vermaak veroordelen.  
2 De mening van de schrijfster over *Model Behaviour* weergeven.  
3 Kritiek leveren op mensen die deelnemen aan reality-tv-programma’s.  
4 Opsommen welke kenmerken nodig zijn om fotomodel te worden.  
A Alleen 1 en 2.  
B Alleen 2 en 3.  
C Alleen 3 en 4.  
D Alleen 4 en 1.  
E 1, 2 en 3.  
F 2, 3 en 4.