

# Proposed Revision to the Hierarchies of Moving Image Genre/Form Headings

Issue for Discussion  
January 8, 2010

In 2007 the Policy and Standards Division (PSD) of the Library of Congress began an experiment to develop genre/form headings in the area of moving images (films, television programs, and video recordings), knowing that some of the decisions made in the first years of the project would be revisited as the genre/form thesaurus was further developed and libraries began to implement the headings.

LC began to apply moving image genre/form headings in new cataloging on January 1, 2009, and the need for more hierarchy in the thesaurus became evident. Therefore, PSD is requesting comment on a proposed change to the hierarchies for moving image genre/form headings. Responses may be sent to [jayo@loc.gov](mailto:jayo@loc.gov) by February 26, 2010.

## Background

In the first year of the moving image genre/form project there was very little hierarchy; most headings were “orphans” in that they did not have a broader term. Therefore individual groups of headings, such as those for films, could not be easily found. Searching and retrieval was facilitated when PSD added the broader term **Motion pictures**, **Television programs**, **Video recordings**, or **Radio programs** as appropriate to those headings that did not already have a broader term. However, there have been ongoing debates over individual headings, in particular whether they can and should be applied to both fiction and nonfiction works.

## Proposal

PSD has examined all of the genre/form headings for moving images and is proposing that many of them be placed explicitly into a fiction or nonfiction hierarchy. The headings fall into four groups:

1. **Fiction ...** hierarchy: the heading may be applied only to fictional works (e.g. **Caper television programs**)
2. **Nonfiction ...** hierarchy: the heading may be applied only to nonfiction works (e.g. **Television talk shows**)
3. **Fiction ... and Nonfiction ...** hierarchies: the heading may be applied to both fiction and nonfiction works (e.g. **Christmas television programs**)
4. **Motion pictures or Television programs or Video recordings** hierarchy: the heading is neither fiction nor nonfiction. Most of the headings that fall into this group are forms, not genres (e.g. **Outtakes**).

Explicit hierarchies will provide more guidance to catalogers as they apply the headings, and promote consistency in bibliographic records. This should in turn allow for easier record sharing and copy cataloging.

In addition to the changes in the BTs, the RT references will also be changed for some headings, to increase understanding of the relationships between them.

The Appendix to this document comprises a list of the genre/form headings for television programs approved through the end of 2009. It shows the proposed broader term, narrower term, and related term relationships as they would appear in *Classification Web* and in the printed volumes of *LCSH*. For example, **Werewolf television programs** is a narrower term of **Monster television programs**, which is a narrower term of **Fiction television programs**, which is then a narrower term of **Television programs**. The entries therefore appear in this way:

**Fiction television programs**

- BT Television programs
- NT Monster television programs  
*[additional NTs omitted]*

**Monster television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Ghost television programs  
*[additional NTs omitted]*

**Television programs**

- NT Fiction television programs  
*[additional NTs omitted]*

**Werewolf television programs**

- BT Monster television programs

The UFs and scope notes have not been included in the list. The headings for television programs are provided because of the relative brevity of the list, as compared to that of the film headings. Decisions made for forms and genres of television programs will also be applied in the area of film.

If PSD decides to implement this new hierarchical structure, *Subject Headings Manual H 1913 (Moving Image Genre/Form Headings)* section 1.b would be revised. It currently instructs catalogers to always apply **Fiction films**, **Nonfiction films**, **Fiction television programs**, or **Nonfiction television programs** to every bibliographic record, in order to distinguish between fiction and nonfiction treatments of a subject. Since the new hierarchical structure would determine which headings denote fiction and nonfiction treatments, the instruction would no longer be strictly necessary. However, PSD is aware that some libraries have found the headings useful, since they can be used as keywords or as search limits. Therefore, PSD intends to make the application of one of these four headings optional.

Comments on this proposal as a whole, or on the hierarchical placement of individual headings, may be sent to Janis Young at [jayo@loc.gov](mailto:jayo@loc.gov) by February 26, 2010.

# Appendix

## Genres and Forms of Television Programs with Proposed Broader, Narrower, and Related Terms

January 8, 2010

### **Action and adventure television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Indiana Jones television programs

### **Animal television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs

### **Animated television programs**

- BT Television programs
- NT Clay animation television programs
- NT Computer animation television programs

### **Anti-war television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT War television programs

### **Anthology television programs**

- BT Television programs

### **Audience participation television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Television talk shows

### **Autobiographical television programs**

- BT Biographical television programs

### **Aviation television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

### **Award presentations (Television programs)**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

### **Ballet television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Televised ballets

### **Baseball television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised baseball games

### **Basketball television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised basketball games

### **Beauty contest television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

### **Bible television programs**

- BT Religious television programs

**Big Brother television programs**

BT Reality television programs

**Biographical television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

NT Autobiographical television programs

**Book review television programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Buddy television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Caper television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

RT Television crime shows

**Children's television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Christian television programs**

BT Religious television programs

**Christmas television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Clay animation television programs**

BT Animated television programs

**College life television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Coming-of-age television programs**

BT Teen television programs

**Commissario Montalbano television programs**

BT Detective and mystery television programs

**Compilation television programs**

BT Television programs

**Computer animation television programs**

BT Animated television programs

**Concert television programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs

RT Television musicals

**Cultural television programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs

NT Dance television programs

**Dance television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

RT Televised dance

**Dark comedy television programs**

BT Television comedies

**DeGrassi television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Detective and mystery television programs**

- BT Television crime shows
- RT Television cop shows
- NT Commissario Montalbano television programs
- NT Sherlock Holmes television programs

**Disaster television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Survival television programs

**Documentary television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Ethnographic television programs
- NT Historical reenactments (Television programs)
- NT Travelogues (Television programs)

**Documentary-style television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Domestic comedy television programs**

- BT Television comedies
- RT Situation comedies (Television programs)

**Don Juan television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Dracula television programs**

- BT Vampire television programs

**Educational television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Science television programs

**Entertainment news programs**

- BT Television news programs

**Epic television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Erotic television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Pornographic television programs

**Ethnic television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Ethnographic television programs**

- BT Documentary television programs

**Fantasy comedies (Television programs)**

- BT Fantasy television programs
- BT Television comedies

**Fantasy television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Fantasy comedies (Television programs)
- NT Superhero television programs

**Fiction television programs**

- BT Television programs
- NT Action and adventure television programs

NT Animal television programs  
NT Anti-war television programs  
NT Aviation television programs  
NT Ballet television programs  
NT Biographical television programs  
NT Buddy television programs  
NT Caper television programs  
NT Children's television programs  
NT Christmas television programs  
NT College life television programs  
NT Dance television programs  
NT DeGrassi television programs  
NT Disaster television programs  
NT Documentary-style television programs  
NT Don Juan television programs  
NT Epic television programs  
NT Erotic television programs  
NT Ethnic television programs  
NT Fantasy television programs  
NT Haunted house television programs  
NT Historical television programs  
NT Horror television programs  
NT Journalism television programs  
NT Jungle television programs  
NT Legal television programs  
NT Made-for-TV movies  
NT Medical television programs  
NT Military television programs  
NT Monster television programs  
NT Nanny television programs  
NT Opera television programs  
NT Pink Panther television programs  
NT Political television programs  
NT Pornographic television programs  
NT Puppet television programs  
NT Religious television programs  
NT Road television programs  
NT Romance television programs  
NT Science fiction television programs  
NT Scooby-Doo television programs  
NT Show business television programs  
NT Social problem television programs  
NT Sports television programs  
NT Spy television programs  
NT Survival television programs  
NT Teen television programs  
NT Television adaptations

- NT Television comedies
- NT Television crime shows
- NT Television melodramas
- NT Television musicals
- NT Television soap operas
- NT Thrillers (Television programs)
- NT War television programs
- NT Western television programs

**Football television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised football games

**Gangster television programs**

- BT Television crime shows

**Ghost television programs**

- BT Monster television programs
- RT Haunted house television programs

**Golf television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised golf matches

**Haunted house television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Ghost television programs
- RT Horror television programs

**Historical reenactments (Television programs)**

- BT Documentary television programs
- RT Historical television programs

**Historical television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Historical reenactments (Television programs)

**Hockey television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised hockey games

**Home shopping television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Infomercials

**Horror television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Haunted house television programs
- RT Monster television programs

**Indiana Jones television programs**

- BT Action and adventure television programs

**Industrial television programs**

- BT Instructional television programs

**Infomercials**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Home shopping television programs

**Instructional television programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs  
NT Industrial television programs

**Internet videos**

BT Motion pictures\*  
RT Webisodes

**Journalism television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Jungle television programs**

BT Fiction television programs  
BT Nonfiction television programs

**Juvenile delinquency television programs**

BT Teen television programs  
BT Television crime shows

**Legal television programs**

BT Fiction television programs  
BT Nonfiction television programs

**Live television programs**

BT Television programs

**Made-for-TV movies**

BT Fiction television programs

**Magazine format television programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Makeover television programs**

BT Reality television programs

**Martial arts television programs**

BT Sports television programs  
NT Televised martial arts events

**Medical television programs**

BT Fiction television programs  
BT Nonfiction television programs

**Military television programs**

BT Fiction television programs  
RT War television programs

**Monster television programs**

BT Fiction television programs  
RT Horror television programs  
NT Ghost television programs  
NT Mummy television programs  
NT Vampire television programs  
NT Werewolf television programs

**Music videos**

BT Nonfiction television programs  
BT Video recordings\*  
NT Rock videos

**Mummy television programs**

BT Monster television programs

**Nanny television programs**



BT Fiction television programs

**Nature television programs**

BT Science television programs

NT Wildlife television programs

**Nonfiction television programs**

BT Television programs

NT Animal television programs

NT Audience participation television programs

NT Award presentations (Television programs)

NT Beauty contest television programs

NT Biographical television programs

NT Book review television programs

NT Children's television programs

NT Christmas television programs

NT Concert television programs

NT Cultural television programs

NT Documentary television programs

NT Educational television programs

NT Erotic television programs

NT Ethnic television programs

NT Home shopping television programs

NT Infomercials

NT Instructional television programs

NT Jungle television programs

NT Legal television programs

NT Magazine format television programs

NT Medical television programs

NT Music videos

NT Political television programs

NT Pornographic television programs

NT Public affairs television programs

NT Public service television programs

NT Puppet television programs

NT Reality competition television programs

NT Reality television programs

NT Religious television programs

NT Special events television coverage

NT Teen television programs

NT Televised performances

NT Televised speeches

NT Televised sports events

NT Television adaptations

NT Television comedies

NT Television commercials

NT Television cooking shows

NT Television dance parties

NT Television debates

- NT Television game shows
- NT Television interviews
- NT Television lectures
- NT Television news programs
- NT Television panel discussions
- NT Television public service announcements
- NT Television quiz shows
- NT Television talk shows
- NT True crime television shows
- NT Variety shows (Television programs)

**Opera television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Televised operas

**Outtakes**

- BT Motion pictures\*
- BT Television programs
- RT Unedited footage

**Parody television programs**

- BT Television comedies

**Pink Panther television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Podcasts**

- BT Motion pictures\*
- BT Sound recordings\*
- BT Television programs

**Political television commercials**

- BT Television commercials

**Political television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Pornographic television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Erotic television programs

**Prison television programs**

- BT Television crime shows

**Promos (Television commercials)**

- BT Television commercials

**Public access television programs**

- BT Television programs

**Public affairs television programs**

- NT Nonfiction television programs

**Public service television programs**

- NT Nonfiction television programs

**Puppet television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Reality competition television programs [proposed]**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- BT Reality television programs
- RT Television game shows

**Reality television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Big Brother television programs
- NT Makeover television programs
- NT Reality competition television programs

**Religious television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Bible television programs
- NT Christian television programs

**Road television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Rock videos**

- BT Music videos

**Romance television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Romantic comedy television programs

**Romantic comedy television programs**

- BT Romance television programs
- BT Television comedies
- RT Sophisticated comedy television programs

**Rural comedy television programs**

- BT Television comedies

**Rushes (Television programs)**

- BT Television programs
- RT Unedited footage

**Science television programs**

- BT Educational television programs
- NT Nature television programs

**Science fiction television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Star Trek television programs
- NT Superhero television programs

**Scooby-Doo television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Screen tests**

- BT Motion pictures\*
- BT Television programs

**Sherlock Holmes television programs**

- BT Detective and mystery television programs

**Show business television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs

**Singing cowboy television programs**

BT Western television programs

**Situation comedies (Television programs)**

BT Television comedies

RT Domestic comedy television programs

**Sketch comedy television programs**

BT Television comedies

**Slapstick comedy television programs**

BT Television comedies

**Soccer television programs**

BT Sports television programs

NT Televised soccer games

**Social problem television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Sophisticated comedy television programs**

BT Television comedies

RT Romantic comedy television programs

**Special events television coverage**

BT Nonfiction television programs

RT Television news programs

**Sports television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

NT Baseball television programs

NT Basketball television programs

NT Football television programs

NT Golf television programs

NT Hockey television programs

NT Martial arts television programs

NT Soccer television programs

NT Televised sports events

NT Tennis television programs

**Spy television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

**Star Trek television programs**

BT Science fiction television programs

**Stock footage**

BT Motion pictures\*

BT Television programs

BT Video recordings\*

RT Unedited footage

**Superhero television programs**

BT Fantasy television programs

BT Science fiction television programs

**Survival television programs**

BT Fiction television programs

RT Disaster television programs

**Teen television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Coming-of-age television programs
- NT Juvenile delinquency television programs

**Televised ballets**

- BT Televised performances
- RT Ballet television programs

**Televised baseball games**

- BT Baseball television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised basketball games**

- BT Basketball television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised dance**

- BT Televised performances
- RT Dance television programs
- NT Televised ballets

**Televised football games**

- BT Football television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised golf matches**

- BT Golf television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised hockey games**

- BT Hockey television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised martial arts events**

- BT Martial arts television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised musicals**

- BT Televised performances
- RT Television musicals

**Televised operas**

- BT Televised performances
- RT Opera television programs

**Televised performances**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Televised dance
- NT Televised musicals
- NT Televised operas
- NT Televised plays
- NT Televised stand-up comedy routines

**Televised plays**

- BT Televised performances

**Televised soccer games**

- BT Soccer television programs
- BT Televised sports events

**Televised speeches**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Televised sports events**

BT Nonfiction television programs

BT Sports television programs

NT Televised baseball games

NT Televised basketball games

NT Televised football games

NT Televised golf matches

NT Televised hockey games

NT Televised martial arts events

NT Televised soccer games

NT Televised tennis matches

**Televised stand-up comedy routines**

BT Televised performances

BT Television comedies

**Televised tennis matches**

BT Televised sports events

BT Tennis television programs

**Television adaptations**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television comedies**

BT Fiction television programs

BT Nonfiction television programs

NT Dark comedy television programs

NT Domestic comedy television programs

NT Fantasy comedies (Television programs)

NT Parody television programs

NT Romantic comedy television programs

NT Rural comedy television programs

NT Situation comedies (Television programs)

NT Sketch comedy television programs

NT Slapstick comedy television comedies

NT Sophisticated comedy television programs

NT Televised stand-up comedy routines

**Television commercials**

BT Nonfiction television programs

NT Political television commercials

NT Promos (Television commercials)

**Television cooking shows**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television cop shows**

BT Television crime shows

RT Detective and mystery television programs

**Television crime shows**

BT Fiction television programs

RT Caper television programs  
RT Thrillers (Television programs)  
NT Detective and mystery television programs  
NT Gangster television programs  
NT Juvenile delinquency television programs  
NT Prison television programs  
NT Television cop shows

**Television dance parties**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television debates**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television game shows**

BT Nonfiction television programs  
RT Reality competition television programs

**Television interviews**

BT Nonfiction television programs  
RT Television talk shows

**Television lectures**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television melodramas**

BT Fiction television programs  
RT Television soap operas

**Television mini-series**

BT Television series

**Television musicals**

BT Fiction television programs  
RT Televised musicals

**Television news programs**

BT Nonfiction television programs  
RT Special events television coverage  
NT Entertainment news programs  
NT Television press conferences

**Television panel discussions**

BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television pilot programs**

BT Television series

**Television press conferences**

BT Television news programs

**Television program clips**

BT Television programs

**Television program excerpts**

BT Television programs

**Television programs**

NT Animated television programs  
NT Anthology television programs  
NT Compilation television programs  
NT Fiction television programs

- NT Live television programs
- NT Nonfiction television programs
- NT Outtakes
- NT Podcasts
- NT Public access television programs
- NT Rushes (Television programs)
- NT Screen tests
- NT Stock footage
- NT Television program clips
- NT Television program excerpts
- NT Television programs for people with visual disabilities
- NT Television programs for the hearing impaired
- NT Television remakes
- NT Television sequels
- NT Television series
- NT Television specials
- NT Unedited footage
- NT Webisodes

**Television programs for people with visual disabilities**

- BT Television programs

**Television programs for the hearing impaired**

- BT Television programs

**Television public service announcements**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television quiz shows**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Television remakes**

- BT Television programs

**Television sequels**

- BT Television programs

**Television series**

- BT Television programs
- NT Television mini-series
- NT Television pilot programs

**Television soap operas**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Television melodramas

**Television specials**

- BT Television programs

**Television talk shows**

- BT Nonfiction television programs
- RT Audience participation television programs
- RT Television interviews

**Tennis television programs**

- BT Sports television programs
- NT Televised tennis matches



**Thrillers (Television programs)**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Television crime shows

**Travelogues (Television programs)**

- BT Documentary television programs

**True crime television programs**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

**Unedited footage**

- BT Motion pictures\*
- BT Television programs
- BT Video recordings\*
- RT Outtakes
- RT Rushes (Motion pictures)\*
- RT Rushes (Television programs)
- RT Stock footage

**Vampire television programs**

- BT Monster television programs
- NT Dracula television programs

**Variety shows (Television programs)**

- BT Nonfiction television programs

**War television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- RT Anti-war television programs
- RT Military television programs

**Webisodes**

- BT Television programs
- RT Internet videos

**Werewolf television programs**

- BT Monster television programs

**Western television programs**

- BT Fiction television programs
- NT Singing cowboy television programs
- NT Zorro television programs

**Wildlife television programs**

- BT Nature television programs

**Zorro television programs**

- BT Western television programs

*An asterisk (\*) denotes headings that are not included in this list, because they are out of scope. The BT is provided to show the hierarchy.*