

Past and present

ACCORDING TO YOUR *That Was the Week* column (11 March), the 1960 *Radio Times* showed that adults were watching Eileen Fowler keep fit and Peter Wyngarde dramatise the Bible, while children learned how the Captain Pugwash characters were operated. Perhaps I wasn't the only one to be bemused by the contrast with your letters page, which juxtaposed discussions on killing babies for spare parts, killing the sick for various reasons, and teaching children how best to manage extramarital sex.

One cannot criticise TV for reflecting the present, but I find myself wondering if we really do live in a more humane society now than that of 1960, which would have condemned all these things as unspeakable abominations?

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