



New source of knowledge: Grab your coffee and enjoy Netflix!

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Let's be honest, how many of us are still reading books as part of enjoying our pastime? At the moment of writing this, I still enjoy reading, but watching TV appeals to me more than reading books for immediate pleasure. Frankly speaking, I won't deny the far-reaching benefits that books could offer, but that doesn't make TV any less good because research has proven that people could become more knowledgeable just by watching TV shows (Chow et al., 2021). For instance, if you have watched most episodes of 'The Good Doctor', I'm sure you can explain the meaning of embolism and aneurysm without even having to Google them up.

Whatever we do in life, in my opinion, must be purposeful. In fact, we are doing multitudinous activities in our life that have various meanings and intentions like providing enjoyment, achieving goals, fulfilling responsibilities, and obtaining knowledge. A study has discovered that doing daily activities with solid purpose and intent could significantly affect people's well-being and self-worth (Hart, 2021). All right, let's see if you could agree with me that TV is also an effective tool in the pursuit of knowledge.

I'm sure that it has become our familiar routine these days that we can always log into Netflix to watch whatever shows that are trending to keep up with the hype. To begin with, I'm not trying to write a review about Netflix here; rather, I'm sharing the categories that Netflix provides for us to choose. When we talk about TV shows on commercial or even national TV channels, we don't get to choose what we want to watch. We indeed have an array of choices, but shows don't simply pop up on our screen according to our preference. And as of today, Netflix culture has infiltrated our lives to the point where it has become a lifestyle for many ardent movie lovers (Wayne, 2021). The biggest



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perk here is we can choose what to appear on our screen.

If you have watched Pixar's hit 'Ratatouille', you surely have come across this one saying in the movie that 'not anyone can become a great cook, but a great cook can come from anywhere'.

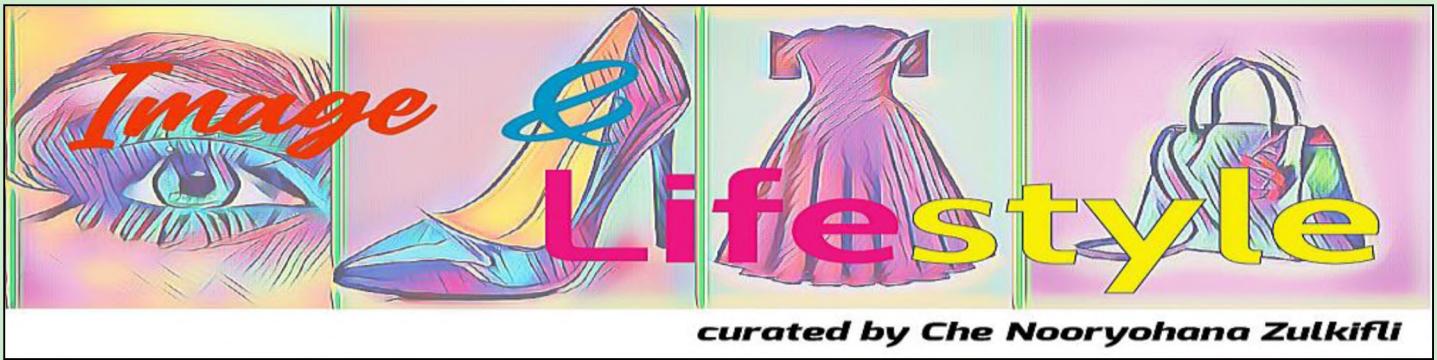
So, my point is that the source of knowledge is infinite, and we shouldn't limit ourselves to stereotyped knowledge references to learn about new culture, lifestyles, and practices. With Netflix, knowledge about people's activities knows no boundary! I honestly view it as a melting pot where I get

to know people from all walks of life, albeit virtually and via one-way street. It may sound a bit paradoxical because most people would tell us that we have to tour around the world to learn about other cultures. However, not everyone has the luxury of doing it. The good thing about this movie platform, it doesn't limit the products to movies and TV series. We get to watch inspiring biopics, documentaries, magic shows, reality TV as well as cooking shows. But

what I love the most is historical reenactment shows that depict people's struggles and hardships, which make me realise that we are living in such a twisted world. I was trapped in my own trepidation to learn that there are extremely ruthless people out there, but it chipped away when those affected could finally find their way to surmount it, pick up the broken pieces and get back to normal. Believe me, there's plenty to learn. It's overwhelming. Despite some gruesome and heartbreaking experiences that come along with it (especially when it involves scenes related to crimes and tragedies), it's the values that count.

Speaking of documentaries, not only could I learn the rep-

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ertoire of a specific field, but I began to appreciate the hard work of people who are behind the scenes. For example, to document the migration of penguins in Antarctica, explorers worldwide had to stay on the ice for more than three months with no other humans around. They have gone through multiple hazardous pursuits like facing extreme weather, shortage of food and damaged recording equipment and just like any of us, they also have families whom they left behind for this to work. Their efforts to bring the reality to all of us, perhaps are underrated all this while and now are made possible through Netflix. It is true that documentaries like this are also available on other commercial channels, but we only get to watch them when they are made to be there. Meanwhile, we get to select what we want to watch at the right time we want to watch it on Netflix. What I enjoy the most is that not only am I on this learning curve with my family, but shows like this have also become a favourite genre for our bonding. I believe that besides books, the documentaries, along with the behind-the-scenes content, help my children revere God's creations, understand the world's entire ecology, appreciate people's hard work while also keeping an eye out for the caveats that the Earth is signaling.

I'm pretty certain that you already know that hedonism appeals to many, thus, elements of inappropriateness or irreverence are rather invasive on Netflix. The good news is, since Netflix is made available only on Smart TVs and smartphones, we can always choose to be smarter. The privacy buttons are all there, you can set the password, filter the access to whomever you wish, and you're good to go! But the setback – it's not free.

References:

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