Amos 'n' Andy polemic

1944

1946

1948

1950

1952

1954

Truman's Civil Rights Commission Report 1949

NAACP Convention 1951

Montgomery bus boycott 1955

Post-war emergence of better roles for African-American performers in the movies 1945

NAACP's threat to boycott the show

Beulah (ABC TV). The first nationally broadcast TV series starring an African-American in the leading role.

Amos 'n' Andy polemic

The Pittsburg courrier defends the show

Beulah (Marlin Hurt, CBS-Radio)

Beulah (ABC TV). The first nationally broadcast TV series starring an African-American in the leading role.

Amos 'n' Andy on TV (CBS). First television series with an all-black cast.

Beulah (ABC TV). The first nationally broadcast TV series starring an African-American in the leading role.

Syndicated reruns

"Black sitcoms"

Radio origins

"White sitcoms"

Radio origins

"Black sitcoms"

Radio origins

Family Comedies
60s: Rise of the Black Movement and Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" measures:

- FCC measures for minorities
- Martin Luther assassination
- Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders aka the Kerner Report
- Protests against the show "The Color Purple" published

1970-1982:
- The Color Purple is published
- The FCC established the Minority Ownership Task Force (researching ways to include minorities in the broadcasting industry) in 1978
- The FCC creates the Advisory Committee on Alternative Financing for Minority Opportunities in Telecommunications in 1981
- The Congress amends the Communications Act to authorize the FCC to grant all licenses via a lottery system. Lottery preferences were to be awarded to minorities in 1981

Julia (NBC)

- Of Black America (Documentary Series, CBS)
- Sanford and Sons (NBC)
- Good Times (Maude's spin-off, CBS)
- The Jeffersons (All in the Family's spin-off, CBS)
- First television program to feature an interracial married couple

The Assimilassionist Era

Social Relevancy and Ridiculed Black Subjectivity aka "The Lear Era"

Social and Political Domestic comedy and Teen-oriented comedies
The Color Purple is published in 1982.
The United States Supreme Court rules constitutional two FCC policies designed to foster minority ownership of broadcast stations. 

Frank's Place case

Tim Reid, star and co-executive producer, receives an NAACP Image Award.

Frank's Place (CBS) Cancelled because of poor ratings.

A Different World (Cosby Show's spin-off). High level of black representation in key decision-making positions.

The Cosby Show (NBC)

Era of Black Family and Diversity or "The Cosby Years"

Family Warmth Comedies

Family Ties (1982)

The Neo-Minstrelsy Era

The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (1990)

The Wayans Brothers (WB)

Martin (FOX, produced by HBO)

In The House (UPN)

Sister, Sister (WB)

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Family Matters (spin-off of Perfect Strangers, ABC and CBS shortly)
The networks have cancelled 13 dramas and sitcoms featuring Black casts because of poor ratings while sitcoms proliferate on the upstart networks.

### The "slave-com" controversy
- Protest against the series outside of the Paramount Studios (sept) 1998
- The Secret Diary of Desmond Pfeiffer (UPN) 1998
- The Wayans Brothers (WB)
- Martin (FOX, produced by HBO)
- The Bernie Mac Show (FOX)
- My Wife and Kids (ABC)
- The Parkers (UPN)
- The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (NBC)
- For Your Love (NBC shortly; WB)
- Sister, Sister (WB)
- In The House (UPN)
- Family Matters (spin-off of Perfect Strangers, ABC and CBS shortly)
- A Different World (Cosby Show's spin-off). High level of black

#### Contemporary Comedies: Unconventional families

#### Contemporary Comedies

- Dancing in September (Reggie Rock Bythewood) 2000
- Bamboozled (Spike Lee) 2000
Post-war steep rise in mortgage rates, birth rates, and growth of mass-produced suburbs

1945

Color TV in the US

1953
Censorship codes demanded that the single parent in television's representations would not be divorced.

- Rising divorce rates: 1960
- Assassination of President Kennedy: Nov 1963
- Lyndon Johnson declares "war on poverty" in his State of the Union address: 1964
- Establishment of the Office of Housing and Urban Development: 1965

Miss American Pageant protest: The Women's liberation movement is born Sep 1968

- Lyndon Johnson declares "war on poverty" in his State of the Union address: 1964

- My Three Sons (ABC) initiated the trend of the widowed parent raising a family.
The Women's liberation movement is born Sep 1968.

Censorship codes demanded that the single parent in television representations would not be divorced.

- An America Family (PBS) 1973
- All in The Family (CBS)
- Maude (All in The Family's spin-off)
- Happy Days (ABC)
- The Beverly Hillbillies (CBS)
- The Doris Day Show (CBS)
- The Mary Tyler Moore Show (CBS)
- Three's Company (ABC)
- My Three Sons (ABC) initiated the trend of the widowed parent raising a family.
Networks' crisis

- Fox Broadcasting Company (4th television network) created 1986
- Writers' strike 1988
- Cable TV introduced, Rise of a fourth television network. Decline in total viewers for the Big Three.

Transformations in ownership, profits, service delivery, technology and regulations.

Cable TV introduced, Rise of a fourth television network. Decline in total viewers for the Big Three.
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