



IV. *All in the Family's* Goal:

- a. What was **Norman Lear's** goal in creating *All in the Family*?
  
- b. **Social Realism**: addressing social issues & family relationships all while also showing real world problems

V. Breaking Rules



- a. The show broke many of primetime's previously unbreakable taboos – HOW SO? (Give 1-2 examples)

VI. Reaction

- a. Immediate reaction from tv writers & critics was mixed.
- b. How did audiences react to the show?

VII. Cast of Characters

- a. The show was framed around a generational gap – between old/young



The older generation		The younger generation	
<u>Archie:</u>          <u>Edith:</u>		<u>Gloria:</u>          <u>Mike:</u>	

## EPISODE: "Sammy's Visit"

*What does the episode say about the following values/issues?*

Starring Sammy Davis, Jr.

- the "greatest living entertainer in the world" (he sang, danced, played instruments, acted, did stand-up)
- helped break down racial barriers in show business in the 1950s and 1960s
- famous as one of the "Rat Pack", a group of entertainers that included Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra

	Archie/Edith 	Gloria/Mike/Lionel 
How would you describe their beliefs/ideas on race?		
What role do the women in the house play?		
What do you notice about their social class?		
How could you make the case that this is an example of the generation gap?		
What makes this show/episode an example of social realism?		

VIII. Archie: the **Anti-Hero** (DEFINE)

- a. APPLY THIS TO ARCHIE: What made Archie the classic anti-hero?
  
- b. What are 2 modern examples of anti-heroes on tv?

IX. Critics

- a. An article in *The New York Times* argued that the show had made Archie into a flattering mirror for bigots
- b. Critics' concerns: bigoted viewers identified with Archie's perspective, and "perhaps most disturbing, saw nothing wrong with Archie's use of racial and ethnic slurs."

X. Impact / Legacy

- a. Archie became an American tv icon.
- b. The show became the focus of a heated national debate on whether comedy was an appropriate way to speak out against prejudice and social inequality.
- c. The show ushered in a new generation of comedic programs which focused on themes of important social significance.

XI. Spin-offs

- a. The Jeffersons ("movin' on up to the East Side...")
- b. Maude