
**CANADIAN BROADCAST STANDARDS COUNCIL
QUEBEC REGIONAL PANEL**

VRAK.TV re a promotional spot for *Godzilla*

(CBSC Decision 02/03-0330)

Decided July 17, 2003

T. Rajan (Vice Chair), B. Gu  rin, G. Moisan, R. Parent and P. Tancred

THE FACTS

A promotional spot for the cartoon *Godzilla* was apparently broadcast on numerous occasions by the specialty service VRAK.TV, one of those being Saturday January 18, 2003, at 9:06 am, during the animated program *Jackie Chan*. The animated promo was done in the style of an old-fashioned silent movie using sepia tones, piano backgrounds and screens including the written dialogue accompanying the action clips. In these clips, one saw different monsters, the faces of frightened individuals, and people trying to escape. The first three panels read "Save us!" [translation], "Help!" [translation] and "Help-me!" [translation]. Later on, one saw a monster on a cliff and two people running away from it. The corresponding panel read "Idiotic monster!!!" [the likely equivalent Canadian interpretation of « Enfoir   de monstre!!! »]. A big snake appeared, spitting at the people and the relevant panel read "Bloody mess!!!" [the likely equivalent Canadian interpretation of « Bordel de merde!!! »]. One then saw Godzilla shaking its head and the panel read "Fwuiiiiiiiii!!!" . In the last scene, three people were talking to each other and the words on the panel said "We're saved! It's Godzilla!" [translation].

The animated promo ended with the information that the show would be broadcast on Sunday at 8:00 am.

On November 22, the complainant sent a complaint to CRTC, which forwarded it to CBSC in due course, in accordance with established procedures. It read in part as follows (the full text of this letter and all other correspondence can be found in the Appendix):

I am writing to you to complain about abusive language on VRAK.TV during prime viewing hours for very young children.

The promo for "Godzilla" features the following two phrases in print:

- « Enfoiré de monstre »
- « Bordel de merdre »

[...T]his promo is broadcast at almost any time throughout the day.
(translation)

Earlier correspondence between the complainant and VRAK.TV, which had occurred prior to the CBSC's involvement, was attached to the complaint. The complainant had initially contacted VRAK.TV by email on September 10, 2002, trying, it appears, to resolve the matter without actually launching an official complaint. That September e-mail read :

Could you remove the following two phrases from the broadcast of "Godzilla":

- « Enfoiré de monstre »
- « Bordel de merdre »

As the parent of two young children who can read, I am embarrassed each time I watch this with them. I do not believe that you are contributing to the welfare of children by using such a bad choice of language that is particularly vulgar. This abusive language has no place in a program targeted at young people.
(translation)

An Audience Relations Representative of VRAK.TV had responded to the complainant on September 25 in part as follows:

We systematically pre-screen all our series to ensure that they comply with our code of ethics. It may be that an inadvertent error in judgment took place during an evaluation session.

We will therefore forward your comments to the Programming Branch, which is always very sensitive to the comments of young people.
(translation)

The complainant had written once more to VRAK.TV on November 4.

I don't know if they are sensitive, but I can assure you that I am. More than a month after your reply, the promo for "Godzilla" still contains the phrases "enfoiré de monstre" and "bordel de merde" (as seen in early November). The next time I see these words on your station, you can be certain that I shall lodge an official complaint with the appropriate body.
(translation)

The complainant had received the following response from VRAK.TV.

Your complaint has indeed been forwarded to the appropriate people. They are in fact the ones who, in the final analysis, had to decide if we should alter the said promo. I imagine they determined that, according to our standards of ethics, we need not make

these changes. Without excusing a use of the French language that may be deemed unacceptable by some (and I agree with you completely on the impropriety of such terms), they must nevertheless be judged in a modern context. Tune in to Radio-Canada, TQS or TVA or an American station and you will see that the use of far “graver” offensive language than that which you pointed out to us is widespread. You will often hear swearing on Radio-Canada, but never on VRAK.TV.

I want to thank you for your comment. I will, once again, forward it to the appropriate individuals. I assure you, however, that a so-called “official complaint to the appropriate body” will not have any additional effect, since it is our practice to forward complaints of this type to the “appropriate body”.
(translation)

After reviewing the complaint and attachments reviewed above, the CBSC informed the complainant that it would require specific dates and times of the broadcast of the promo in order to request tapes from the broadcaster. After some additional correspondence, the complainant was able to pinpoint the required information.

Following the CBSC’s offer to provide another response to the complainant, the Vice-President, Legal and Regulatory Affairs, wrote to the complainant on December 20:

We are aware of your e-mail to the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council (CBSC) in which you convey your concerns about two visual sequences broadcast in the promo for the “Godzilla” cartoon on VRAK.TV.

[...] The purpose of this promo is to present a parody of the first Japanese version of the silent film, “Godzilla”, and of the French-style translation of the panels describing the action and containing the dialogue in the film. These panels are included in the promo in the spirit of that context. The expressions used in the promo are clearly meant to be a send-up in the sense that they are patently French expressions rarely used in Québec.

We believe this promo complies with the spirit of the *Code of Ethics* and other codes of voluntary application that VRAK.TV applies. However, we do understand that the texts in the promos, when taken out of context, may affect the sensibilities of some viewers. As we periodically review the promos, any modification that may be deemed necessary to the “Godzilla” promo will be made by the VRAK.TV team.
(translation)

The complainant responded to VRAK.TV on December 21:

As you so aptly point out with respect to the promo for “Godzilla”, this is indeed good French from France. I would just like to point out to you that I am French and that my children are perfectly bilingual Franco-Quebeckers (French from France and French from Québec). I am perfectly willing to accept that this may not upset YOUR values. But it does upset mine and those of my children. Apparently, one must respect ethnicities, religions, values, etc. This does not seem to concern you where French from France is concerned.

You may be assured in any event that your letter will be forwarded to a large number of people. I can’t recall when I have been so insulted. Thank you for this flagrant lack of respect for my nationality.

Had I had your upbringing, I would have lowered myself to expressing a few swear words from my country. Since this is considered good for children, it should not offend you too

much. But, I won't give you the satisfaction. Not even a little swear word. I hope you are not too disappointed Madam.
(translation)

Later the same day, the complainant added a few thoughts in another email:

Pardon me, but I forgot to add one detail in my previous e-mail!!!

- I - My wife, who is a dyed-in-the-wool Quebecker, is also offended by this language. You see, some cultivated individuals who know about other countries and other customs can also be offended, even though they are Quebeckers and live in Québec.

- II - In the promo for "Sponge Bob" yesterday morning (19/02/2002), my wife was offended by the answer to a question concerning Bob, which was: "BECAUSE HE'S A PRICK".

I know, I know, it's a parody on the French from France, using language that is not used in Québec and that complies with your ethics code (which, I should remind you incidentally, contains the expectation that you respect, among others, the values of other ethnicities)!!!

You would do well to turn on ... your TV ... and your scale of values and respect.
(translation)

VRAK.TV sent yet another response to the complainant on January 22:

We have learned of your comments of Friday, December 20th in reply to our e-mail of the same date. We wish to inform you that we are sorry our statements offended you and your wife.

We also wish to assure you that the spirit of our December 20th correspondence did not intend to be hurtful towards our viewers, as they are equally important to us regardless of their nationality.
(translation)

The lengthy correspondence concluded at that point. On January 7, in light of the clear disagreement between the parties with respect to the single substantive issue, the CBSC determined that, despite the absence of a formal Ruling Request, it would proceed with the adjudication of the matter.

THE DECISION

The CBSC's Quebec Regional Panel examined the complaint under Clauses 4 and 10 of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters' (CAB) *Code of Ethics*, which read as follows. Since the decision also mentions terms included in Clause 2, that text is also included.

CAB Code of Ethics, Clause 2 – Human Rights

Recognizing that every person has the right to full and equal recognition and to enjoy certain fundamental rights and freedoms, broadcasters shall ensure that their

programming contains no abusive or unduly discriminatory material or comment which is based on matters of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status or physical or mental disability.

CAB Code of Ethics, Clause 4 – Children’s Programs

- (1) Recognizing that programs designed specifically for children reach impressionable minds and influence social attitudes and aptitudes, it shall be the responsibility of broadcasters to provide the closest possible supervision in the selection and control of material, characterizations and plot.
- (2) Nothing in the foregoing shall mean that the vigour and vitality common to children’s imaginations and love of adventure should be removed. It does mean that such programs should be based upon sound social concepts and presented with a superior degree of craftsmanship, and that these programs should reflect the moral and ethical standards of contemporary Canadian society and encourage pro-social behaviour and attitudes. Broadcasters should encourage parents to select from the richness of broadcasting fare the best programs to be brought to the attention of their children.
- (3) Broadcasters shall refer to the *Voluntary Code Regarding Violence in Television Programming* for special provisions relating to the depiction of violence in children’s programming.

CAB Code of Ethics, Clause 10 – Television Broadcasting

Scheduling

- (e) Promotional material which contains sexually explicit material or coarse or offensive language intended for adult audiences, shall not be telecast before 9 pm.

The Quebec Regional Panel viewed a tape of the *Godzilla* promo and reviewed all of the correspondence. It does not consider that the broadcast of the promo violated either of the foregoing provisions of the *CAB Code of Ethics*.

The Language at Issue

It is curious that coarse or offensive English language issues have frequently been a matter for consideration by CBSC Panels while rarely rising on the French language horizon. For some of the English coarse language decisions, see, among others, *CFRA-AM re the Steve Madely Show* (CBSC Decision 93/94-0295, Novembre 15, 1994), *CHAN-TV re Sportscast* (CBSC Decision 95/96-0108, December 18, 1996), *CIRK-FM re T-Shirt Promotion Sport* (CBSC Decision 96/97-0206, December 16, 1997), *CIQC-AM re Galganov in the Morning* (CBSC Decision 97/98-0473, August 14, 1998), *Showcase Television re the movie Destiny to Order* (CBSC Decision 00/01-0715, January 16, 2002).

The only comparable French language decision, which involved the challenged words « christ », « tabernac’ », « calice » and « hostie », was that of *CKAC-AM re a segment by Michel Beaudry* (CBSC Decision 01/02-0966, December 20, 2002). In that instance, this Panel concluded:

In the case at hand, the Québec Regional Panel agrees with the broadcaster that the words in question have slipped into common and marginally acceptable usage [...].

The Panel understands, and is sensitive to, the perspective of the complainant. It concludes, however, that, while the words may be unacceptable in some households and are certainly not tasteful, they are not today so severe as to restrict their usage on radio, especially in the very early hours of the morning, namely between the hours of 4:00 and 5:00 am.

In the view of the Panel, the religious tradition of the words central to the CKAC decision rendered them instinctively more offensive than the challenged words in the matter at hand. Indeed, it is the expectation of the Panel that the words at issue here are either not broadly known to Canadian Francophones or, to the extent known, have a far less scatological nature than they allegedly do to European Francophones (according to the complainant, who may or may not himself be representative of European Francophone attitudes on the matter at hand). In any event, it behoved the Panel to verify the point. It learned, with some interest, that the word « enfoiré », which is the key word in the first of the expressions at issue, could not even be found in Louis-Alexandre Bélisle's *Dictionnaire nord-américain de la langue française* (Montréal : Beauchemin, 1979), Léandre Bergeron's *Dictionnaire de la langue québécoise* (Montréal : Beauchemin, 1997), or Lionel Meney's *Dictionnaire québécois français* (Montréal : Guérin, 1999).

In two other Quebec dictionaries, it was found but generally with a far less problematic meaning than that alleged to be the concern in France. In Jean-Claude Boulanger's *Dictionnaire québécois d'aujourd'hui* (Montréal : DicoRobert, 1992), the only usage for the word, which serves either as an adjective or a noun, was « Imbécile, maladroit. → □diot, malade, niaiseux ; fam[ilier] cave, con » and the examples given are, as a noun, « *Quel est l'enfoiré qui m'a coupé le chemin?* » and, as an adjective, « *Elle est enfoirée.* » In the *Dictionnaire du français plus : À l'usage des francophones d'Amérique* (Montréal : Centre Éducatif et Culturel , 1988), the usage which the Panel assumes was the complainant's principal concern was noted, namely, « Souillé d'excréments », but with the limited description “vulgar”, while the other usage, « Idiot, abruti » was denoted “popular”. Even Gaston Esnault's *Dictionnaire historique des argots français* (Paris : Librairie Larousse, 1965) provides only a single meaning, namely « Imbécile », and *Le Grand Robert de la langue française* (Paris : Dictionnaire Le Robert, 2001) , which acknowledges the vulgar usage, equally provides « Idiot [...] Imbécile, maladroit » as well as literary extracts supporting that understanding. On balance, while giving the benefit of the doubt to the complainant regarding the extent of the offensiveness of the terms in France, the Quebec Panel has no doubt about the intended (and customary) meaning of the term in this country.

As to the other offending phrase, « Bordel de merde », nothing like the same inquiry is required. Neither of the nouns is shocking in the Canadian context and put together they rather resemble the corresponding Anglophone expression, a “bloody mess”, which would be rather more offensive in England than in Canada. Few persons without some British background would be the least bit troubled by a reference to “a bloody mess” in Canada, while someone with such background would likely be offended by the expression. The Panel understands the English and French versions of « Bordel de

merde » to be offensive on the Old World shores of the Atlantic and of little irreverent moment on the New World shores.

In sum, the terms « Enfoiré de monstre » and « Bordel de merde », have either not established themselves in French Canada at all or have garnered meanings, which, while “common” in their nature and perhaps a trifle risqué for refined company, do not share the harsh vulgarity of such words on French soil. The terms are simply trivial and insignificant in the Canadian context and certainly do not rise to the level of a breach of the Code clauses cited above.

The Standard to Apply in Judging Coarse Language

For purposes of the resolution of this question, the Panel continues to assume that the words used in the written sections of the promo *would be* offensive in France and would *not* be in Quebec. The question for it to resolve is whether, in such hypothetical circumstances, the Panel should apply the offensive language standards of France or of Quebec. The complainant declares his entitlement as a native of France and that of his children, bilingual Franco-Quebecers (that is, speakers of the French of France and that of Quebec), to have *their* linguistic standards respected. The broadcaster, on the other hand, argues that the use of French language terms “very rarely employed in Quebec” reflects the parodying nature of the usage in this Quebec promo. The complainant counters that this response is insufficient, and that other ethnicities must be respected.

The issue for the Panel is, in some respects, more straightforward than the position enunciated by the broadcaster. The question is not so much the parodic nature of the on-screen panels as it is the words themselves and how shall they be judged?

This matter is, in the Quebec Panel’s view, very different from that which it frequently considers in the area of human rights. In the latter context, all CBSC Panels are extremely careful to ensure that no “abusive or unduly discriminatory” comment is made based on “national or ethnic origin”, among other things. The Panel views this issue not merely as one of offence but rather one which goes to fundamental issues of harm, injury and damage done to the nature and personality of a targeted group. In the case at hand, the issue is different. It is neither fundamental nor essential. The words are not targeted at the complainant. They offend him (and his family) but they do not go to his, or their, nature or essence. They are not an attribute of his ethnicity. That ethnicity or background makes him sensitive to the use of those words, which are, he says, not proper in his land of origin, but are far less offensive, if offensive at all, in his land of adoption. It is, in the opinion of the Panel, the latter standards which are to be applied. Content appreciation is a local, not an international, question. Standards relating to coarse or offensive language or other such issues will be judged in local, not international, terms. This is not to say that the same view on a particular point may not be universally held. It may, of course, but it is local sensibilities which are germane and by which the matter in each instance must be judged. It is, after all, on that basis that the Codes were developed in the first place. The job of broadcasters in respecting the

breadth of local tastes and concerns is difficult enough. The skills they apply in this regard must be finely honed. It would be unreasonable that they also be held to standards from outside their expected audience ambit.

Broadcaster Responsiveness

It is the practice of all CBSC Adjudicating Panels to assess the broadcaster's responsiveness to the complainant. Although it is, of course, the case that the broadcaster need not agree with the complainant, it is expected that its representatives charged with replying to complaints will address the complainant's concerns in a thorough and respectful manner. In this case, the initial response from a representative of audience relations was unfortunately inappropriate. By saying that a "formal complaint to whom it may concern would have no additional consequence since we [VRAK.TV] already forward such complaints to whom it may concern" essentially cuts off the complaints process without informing the complainant that the CBSC exists specifically to deal with such matters. Moreover, it is an obligation of members to advise complainants of the existence of such a recourse. In any event, in this instance, it is a good thing that the complainant was as persistent as he was, thus ensuring that the complaint would reach the CBSC's adjudication process.

Leaving aside the foregoing error, VRAK.TV undeniably manifested its willingness to engage in a protracted series of e-mails with the complainant, both before and after the CBSC became involved in the file, in an attempt to resolve the matter without adjudication. The Panel finds that VRAK.TV has met its responsibilities of responsiveness. Nothing further is required in this regard on this occasion.

This decision is a public document upon its release by the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council. It may be reported, announced or read by the station against which the complaint had originally been made. However, in the case of a favourable decision, the station is under no obligation to announce the result.

ANNEXE

Dossier du CCNR 02/03-0330

VRAK.TV concernant une autopromotion pour l'émission *Godzilla*

I. La plainte

Le 22 novembre, le plaignant envoya la plainte suivant au CRTC qui l'achemina au CCNR selon la procédure établie :

Bonjour

Je vous écris pour me plaindre d'un abus de langage sur la chaîne VRAK.TV, aux heures de grandes écoutes de très jeunes enfants.

On peut voir dans la bande annonce de Godzilla les deux phrases suivantes :

- Enfoiré de monstre
- Bordel de merde

Je vous envoie la correspondance que j'ai eu avec le service de VRAK.TV. Je n'ai pas les heures, ni les jours exact de diffusion, car cette bande annonce passe à peu près à n'importe quel moment dans la journée

Une suite de correspondance entre le plaignant et VRAK.TV était jointe à la plainte. Selon cette correspondance, le plaignant a contacté VRAK.TV par courriel avant de déposer une plainte officielle, soit le 10 septembre 2002

Pourriez-vous enlever de la présentation de Godzilla les deux phrases suivantes :

- Enfoiré de monstre
- Bordel de merde

Parent de deux jeunes enfants sachant lire, je suis gêné chaque fois que je vois ça avec eux. Je ne pense pas que vous aidiez les jeunes en parlant mal et surtout vulgairement. Ce langage grossier n'a pas sa place dans une émission pour jeunes.

Merci.

Veuillez recevoir l'expression de mes sentiments distingués.

Une représentante du service à l'auditoire de VRAK.TV a répondu au plaignant le 25 septembre

Bonjour,

Nous voulons premièrement vous remercier de votre intérêt envers notre chaîne. Des commentaires tels que le vôtre sont appréciés et nous permettent d'améliorer notre programmation.

Toutes nos séries sont systématiquement visionnées afin de s'assurer qu'elles respectent notre code d'éthique. Une erreur de jugement s'est-elle glissée lors de l'évaluation?

Nous allons donc transmettre vos commentaires à la direction des programmes qui est toujours très sensible aux commentaires des jeunes.

Encore une fois merci,

VRAK.TV, ton méchant canal !

Le plaignant a écrit une fois de plus à VRAK.TV le 4 novembre :

Monsieur, Madame,

Je ne sais pas s'ils sont sensibles, mais moi oui. Plus d'un mois après votre réponse, la bande annonce de Godzilla comporte toujours les termes "Enfoiré de monstre" et "Bordel de merde" (vu début novembre). La prochaine fois que je vois ces mots sur votre chaîne, soyez sûr que je ferais une plainte officielle à qui de droit.

Veillez recevoir mes salutations.

Le plaignant a reçu la réponse suivante de VRAK.TV :

Bonjour,

Votre plainte a bel et bien été transmise aux personnes concernées. C'est eux qui, à la fin, devaient décider si nous devons apporter des modifications sur ladite bande annonce. J'imagine qu'ils ont jugé que, selon nos barèmes d'éthique, nous ne devons pas faire ces modifications. Sans excuser un usage de la langue française qui puisse être jugé inacceptable par certains (et je suis tout à fait en accord avec vous sur l'impropriété de tels termes), il faut néanmoins les juger dans un contexte contemporain : écoutez Radio Canada, TQS, ou TVA, ou une chaîne Américaine et vous verrez que l'usage d'injures autrement plus 'graves' que celles que vous nous avez pointées est répandu. À SRC vous entendrez fréquemment des sacres : sur VRAK.TV, jamais.

Je tiens donc à vous remercier pour votre commentaire. Je le ferai parvenir, une fois de plus, aux personnes responsables, mais soyez assuré qu'une soit-disant 'plainte officielle à qui de droit' n'aurait aucune répercussion additionnelle, puisque nous acheminons déjà les plaintes de ce genre 'à qui de droit'.

Au plaisir,

VRAK.TV, ton méchant canal !

Lorsque le CCNR a reçu la plainte, le Conseil a écrit au plaignant lui expliquant qu'il faut une date et une heure précise de diffusion aux fins de conserver une bande-témoignage de l'autopromotion en cause et de poursuivre la plainte. Le plaignant a répondu au CCNR le 25 novembre :

Le seul problème, c'est que ma plainte ne porte pas contre une émission (facilement retrouvable dans une programmation), mais contre une bande annonce (publicité) pour une émission, qui passe à peu près n'importe quand dans la journée.

Je pense d'ailleurs que les gens de VRAK.TV, ne devraient pas avoir de problème à la retrouver, vu qu'ils la ressortent chaque année. Je ne pense pas qu'ils jettent la bande, qu'ils ont eux mêmes fabriqué. Ils l'ont sûrement en archive. Mais comme le règlement dit que ... 28 jours ... sinon pas bon ... prouvez-le..., ils sont bien tranquilles.

C'est le problème de notre société. Ils l'ont, on le sait, tout le monde le sait, mais on ne peut rien faire. Et ça, ils le savent.

D'ailleurs, j'ai le même problème avec les principales chaînes de télé, car même si elles passent les films violents pour adulte à des heures raisonnables, les bandes annonces de ces films (très souvent explicites) passent en plein après-midi.

Pensez-vous sincèrement, qu'avec une plainte, je pourrais faire stopper les bandes annonces des films violents du soir sur Radio-Canada, sur TQS et sur TVA, aux heures de grandes écoutes (avant 18 heures). Imaginez la perte financière pour ses stations. Et là où il y a de l'argent... y a pas de place pour l'avis de monsieur tout le monde.

Merci pour les renseignements

Veuillez agréer, Madame, mes salutations les plus sincères.

Suite à cette correspondance, le CCNR a constaté la difficulté qu'entraîne l'obligation de noter la date et l'heure d'une autopromotion et a reconnu qu'il n'y avait pas de dispute quant aux faits entourant la diffusion de la bande-annonce. Le CCNR a donc décidé de poursuivre la plainte.

II. La réponse du télédiffuseur

Suite à l'offre du CCNR de présenter une autre réponse au plaignant, la Vice-présidente, Service juridique, réglementaire et relations aux affiliés a écrit au plaignant le 20 décembre :

Nous avons pris connaissance de votre courriel au Conseil canadien des normes de la radiotélévision (« CCNR ») dans lequel vous faites part de vos préoccupations quant à deux séquences visuelles présentées dans la bande-annonce du dessin animé *Godzilla* diffusé sur les ondes de VRAK.TV.

Nous vous remercions de nous transmettre ces préoccupations. Nous souhaitons dans un premier temps vous assurer que l'équipe de VRAK.TV visionne toutes les émissions et bandes-annonces avant que celles-ci ne soient diffusées sur les ondes de VRAK.TV. L'esprit de cette bande-annonce vise à parodier la première version japonaise du film muet « Godzilla » et la traduction « à la française » des panneaux décrivant l'action et les dialogues contenus dans ce film. C'est dans ce contexte caricatural que de tels panneaux se retrouvent dans cette bande-annonce. Le vocable utilisé dans la bande-annonce est de toute évidence parodique en ce qu'il reprend des expressions clairement françaises très peu utilisées au Québec.

Nous considérons que cette bande-annonce respecte l'esprit du code de déontologie et des autres codes d'application volontaire auxquels VRAK.TV souscrit. Nous comprenons toutefois que les textes insérés dans la bande-annonce, pris hors-contexte, peuvent affecter la sensibilité de certains téléspectateurs. Les bandes-annonces sont périodiquement revues

et ainsi toute modification qui pourrait être jugée nécessaire à la bande-annonce de Godzilla sera effectuée par l'équipe de VRAK.TV.

Les commentaires reçus de nos téléspectateurs nous permettent d'ajuster et d'améliorer continuellement nos contenus et ainsi de mieux répondre à notre mandat en tant que diffuseur. À cet effet, soyez assuré que nous prenons bonne note de l'appréciation que vous nous avez communiquée. Nous pouvons vous garantir que nous continuerons d'apporter une attention particulière au contenu de nos émissions et de leurs bandes-

III. Correspondance additionnelle

Le plaignant a répondu à VRAK.TV le 21 décembre :

Madame,

Comme vous le faites si bien remarquer, au sujet de la bande annonce de Godzilla, c'est du bon français de France. Je voudrais juste vous faire remarquer que je suis français, que mes enfants sont franco-québécois, parfaitement bilingues (français de France et français du Québec). Donc que ça ne dérange pas VOS valeurs, je veux bien. Mais ça dérange les miennes et celles de mes enfants. Paraît-il qu'il faut respecter les ethnies, les religions, les valeurs etc... Ça n'a pas l'air d'être dans vos préoccupations, lorsqu'il s'agit de français de France.

En tout cas soyez sûr, que votre lettre va se retrouver dans de nombreuses mains. Ça fait des années que je n'avais pas été insulté de la sorte. Merci pour ce manque de respect flagrant pour ma nationalité.

Si j'avais eu votre éducation, je me serais abaissé à vous sortir quelques jurons bien de chez moi, vu que c'est bon pour les enfants, ça devrait pas trop vous offenser. Mais je ne vous ferais pas ce plaisir. Même pas un petit sacre. Pas trop déçue, Madame.

Adieu, Madame!

Il a ajouté quelques pensées dans un courriel envoyé plus tard le même jour :

Excusez, j'ai oublié dans l'autre courriel un détail !!!

-I- Ma conjointe, québécoise pure laine, est elle aussi choquée par ce langage. Voyez-vous, certaines personnes cultivées, connaissant d'autres pays et d'autres coutumes, peuvent aussi être choquées, bien qu'étant québécoises et vivant au Québec.

-II- Dans la bande annonce de "Bob l'éponge", cette même conjointe, hier matin (19/02/2002), a été choquée par la réponse une question au sujet de Bob, qui était : "PARCE QUE C'EST UN CON".

Je sais, je sais, c'est de la parodie à la française de France, dans un langage pas utilisé au Québec et respectant vos codes de déontologie (qui en passant, je vous rappelle, vous demandes de respecter entre autre, les valeurs des autres ethnies) !!!

Vous feriez bien d'allumer ... la télé ... et votre échelle des valeurs et du respect.

Le 19 janvier 2003, le plaignant a écrit au CCNR :

Madame,

J'ai enfin réussi à noter une heure et une date pour la diffusion de la bande annonce mentionnée dans le dossier C02/03-330.

Elle est repassée le **samedi 18 janvier à 9h06** (pendant la série de publicité de 9h00 à 9h10)

Veillez agréer, Madame, mes salutations les plus sincères

VRAK.TV a envoyé une autre réponse au plaignant le 22 janvier :

Nous avons pris connaissance de vos commentaires du vendredi 20 décembre dernier en réponse à notre courriel du même jour et nous souhaitons vous faire part du fait que nous sommes désolés que nos propos vous aient offusqués, vous et votre conjointe.

Nous souhaitons également vous assurer que l'esprit de notre correspondance du 20 décembre dernier ne se voulait pas blessante à l'endroit de nos téléspectateurs, ceux-ci étant, toute nationalité confondue, également importants pour nous.

Ainsi, nous regrettons que le contenu de notre réponse vous ait choqué ou blessé. À nouveau, soyez assuré que la direction de VRAK.TV a pris bonne note de vos commentaires.