



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

TV football 'corrupts children'



Professional footballers set children a 'bad example' because verbal abuse, cheating and violence among players are commonplace, Martin Ward, deputy leader of the Secondary Heads Association claims.

He says copycat behaviour by pupils makes teaching "infinitely more difficult". "Violence, verbal abuse, foul language, cheating and defiance of authority occur sometimes in schools." "They occur much more frequently outside school and, in particular, in professional football, often without the player even being cautioned."

Martin Ward came in for some verbal abuse for saying what he did and yet the truth of the matter is obvious.

The ill-temper, the foul language, the angry gestures from children are seen daily in schools, shops and above all in the homes of the nation. They are but aping what the sporting "heroes" on the football field are doing. These foul-mouthed, overpaid prima donnas have undoubtedly had a detrimental influence on the youth of the nation.

Sadly, all too many Christians are prepared to ignore this fact in order to indulge in their favourite past-time, unconscious, it would appear, of the impression being made upon their children who consider their parents' continuing interest as a silent consent to the ill-behaviour on the football pitch.

A high price will be paid for such indulgence!

[See a BBC report that endorses the above views.](#)