

# Disney Channel Sitcom Has 13-Year-Old Coming Out as Gay

The Walt Disney Company, formerly a reliable source of family-friendly entertainment, is launching yet another propaganda offensive — or is that offensive propaganda? — on behalf of the homosexual agenda. The Disney Channel's hugely popular tween sitcom *Andi Mack* is about to introduce a storyline in which a boy with a girlfriend finds himself attracted to another boy.



Andi Mack tells the story of a 13-year-old girl, Andi (Peyton Elizabeth Lee), and her interactions with her family and her best friends, Cyrus (Joshua Rush) and Buffy (Sofia Wylie). The series has pushed the envelope since its very first episode, in which Andi learned that the woman she thought was her big sister was, in fact, her mother, and that her supposed mother was actually her grandmother. But it is upping the ante with its second-season premiere, which airs October 27.

According to the <u>Hollywood Reporter</u>:

Friday's episode finds Andi awkwardly sorting out her feelings for her classmate Jonah (Asher Angel). At the same time, Cyrus, also 13, realizes that he, too, has feelings for Jonah and confides in Buffy — the scene and Buffy's reaction are intended to serve as a positive role model for both kids and adults — even as he struggles with how to share this revelation with his new girlfriend. This kicks off his journey to self-discovery and ultimately self-acceptance as a gay individual, as seen in subsequent episodes.

"Andi Mack is a story about tweens figuring out who they are; [creator] Terri Minsky, the cast and everyone involved in the show takes great care in ensuring that it's appropriate for all audiences and sends a powerful message about inclusion and respect for humanity," a Disney Channel spokesperson said in a statement.

That depends on one's definition of "appropriate for all audiences." The median age of Andi Mack's viewers is 10 years old, and it is the number-one show among girls and "top-rated in its time period among kids 6-14," wrote the *Reporter*. Disney has already featured gay characters in its TV shows and <u>movies</u> aimed at teens, tweens, and even <u>preschoolers</u> with few, if any, repercussions. Why shouldn't the company take the next logical step down the road to perdition?

Disney is hardly concealing its attempt to influence young minds with this move. In developing the storyline, the company consulted both "child development experts" (the *Reporter*) and "PFLAG, the US's biggest LGBTQ organization" (the <u>BBC</u>). In addition, the company screened the episode in advance for other pro-gay groups, just to make sure they were behind it 100 percent — and indeed they are.

"With more and more young people coming out as LGBTQ, *Andi Mack* is reflecting the lives and lived experiences of so many LGBTQ youth around the country," said GLAAD president and CEO Sarah Kate Ellis. "Television reflects the real-life world, and today that includes LGBTQ youth who deserve to see their lives depicted on their favorite shows. Disney has been a leader in LGBTQ inclusion, and there are

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so many young people who will be excited to see Cyrus' story unfold."

"It's great to see Disney taking this step. For young lesbian, gay and bi people it sends a powerful message, demonstrating that they are not alone," Kim Sanders of Stonewall, a U.K. LGBTQ group, told the BBC. "We need to see more people with different sexual orientations and gender identities on TV and in film."

In case there was any doubt, PFLAG executive director Dr. James Grant made it clear that the episode is all about changing hearts and minds: "Andi Mack's creative team captures this moment of revelation [coming out as gay] with such thought, care and authenticity; it will be a memory moment for some, and a teachable moment for many."

Unless the Disney Channel, and especially *Andi Mack*, experiences a large viewer exodus over this storyline, one can be certain that Disney and the rest of Hollywood will only feel emboldened to proselytize children even further into moral depravity. Parents, wake up!



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