

The Community Center for Television Production is a media access organization working in conjunction with the Experimental Television Center, SUNY at Binghamton. We are funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and are cooperating with WSKG TV Channel 46, Binghamton. The Center gives the people of the Triple Cities area access to portable videotape television equipment. This means that individuals and groups in this area may produce television. For example, a high school student interested in the creative potential of tv can spend time at the Center working with video artists. A citizens' group trying to communicate and reinforce a political position or opinion can further its distribution of information through this Center. A governmental department trying to communicate more effectively with the community by giving specific answers to questions is welcome. Anyone who just wants to experiment with tv can use what we have to discover what he can do with television.

**ACCESS.** Access to communications media (tv, radio, etc.) should not be as restrictive as it is . . . Decentralization of the television medium is a must if a community is to have a "voice" that mirrors its diversity and varying opinions . . . A community where only a few have access to tv is intolerable. TV literacy is necessary.

**COMMUNITY AS STUDIO.** The community can become a studio because half inch videotape equipment is portable, easy to operate, and relatively inexpensive . . . and you don't need special lighting and technical staffs who operate and care for the hardware. The result is that tv made along those lines will get across more about real people in actual community situations rather than media personalities . . . Dispersing tv production capability throughout a community is holding a mirror up to the community so it can see itself. Through it, communication takes place . . . A community is made of people. The buildings, the money, the cars, and all the other hardware are a supportive technology that may get the community going, but cannot sustain it apart from the people . . . We want more direct communication. That means communication that is not sifted by established tv so only the high points—excitement—are available.

Besides providing ½" videotape equipment for people making their own television, the "Community Center for Television Production" will be a center for talking about what is being made. In this sense, the Center is more than an organization providing hardware. It is also a center for tv education and study . . . People are encouraged to explore.



*The Community Center for Television Production*  
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