

OPINION

Netflix's new show "Insatiable" presents a prime example of fat-shaming and how it affects the people watching it

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Over the past couple of years, Netflix has proven to be capable of producing thought-provoking, meaningful television shows and movies. Between the creative genius of "Stranger Things," the heartwarming plot lines of the "Queer Eye" reboot and the diversity of "Orange Is the New Black," Netflix has something for a variety of audiences.

Yet, Netflix's new show "Insatiable" falls short on progressiveness. If anything, it moves in the opposite direction.

Featuring former Disney Channel star Debby Ryan, "Insatiable" follows the story of overweight high school student Patty Bladell, who constantly faces bullying and harassment for the way her body looks.

When a punch in the face leaves Patty's jaw wired shut for three months, she loses an incredible amount of weight and returns to

high school with not only a "revenge body," but also with an insatiable desire to get revenge on everyone who wronged her.

Under the guidance of struggling beauty pageant coach/accused pedophile Bob Armstrong, played by Dallas Roberts, Patty dedicates her time to becoming a glamorous beauty queen and pageant winner.

Prior to her drastic weight change, Ryan (as Patty) wore a fat suit along with drab, ill-fitting clothes.

Even before the show's release on Netflix, "Insatiable" received backlash from critics and viewers alike accusing the show of fat-shaming.

After the trailer for the show aired on Netflix, a petition was created to cancel the show's release, gathering more than 230,000 signatures. It's easy to agree or want to sign, with an episode title like "Skinny is Magic" or how Patty's character becomes a fashionista after she loses weight.

Several topics presented in the show are used as jokes or comedic tools, rather than



Jamie Choate, president of the Active Minds club, hopes to join forces with other organizations on campus to bring more awareness to body shaming.

INSATIABLE

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being taken seriously.

Patty's weight, her best friend struggling with her sexuality and Bob being an alleged pedophile all get written off as cheap jokes, rather than progressing the plot or being addressed seriously.

"I heard about the show on social media, and that it was questionable," sophomore Caitlin Doherty, a Mass Communication major, said. "So I decided to watch it and it is questionable. Not only

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