

HUMAN NATURE SHOW

by

Justin Sabo

Writers Guild of Amer-W  
#1296241

3467 Pin Oak Lane  
Chalfont, PA 18914  
215.421.8842  
justinsabo227@gmail.com

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**Logline:** A comedic expose on various human social groups sharing a common hindrance--themselves.

**Concept:** "Human Nature Show" is a relatable, "I know that kind of person", comedic documentary series with each episode focusing on common social groups under a microscope. The protagonist, representing his/her social group, reveals their characteristics by interacting with: members of their social group, members outside their social group, friends, family, love interests, employers, neighbors, etc. The protagonist is resilient to change throughout the entire show which serves as personal motivation to continue their quest.

Humor is derived from the protagonist's idiosyncrasies, their belief system, and onscreen physical actions married to "wink and a nod", British gentlemen style, off-screen narration by MITCHELL APPLEBOTTOM.

**Format:** Storytelling is presented in standard documentary format. Onscreen dialogue is kept to a minimum throughout each show in favor of narration. The types of obstacles facing each character are unique to his/her social group but the core layout will be consistent throughout the series: ACT I shows them in their environment and introduces a problem; ACT II explores their behavior with family, friends, and loved ones while escalating the dilemma; and ACT III has them facing off and resolving (or not resolving) the conflict. Smaller hindrances will pop up along the way to the resolution with the supporting characters acting as catalysts.

**Synopsis:** Below is the synopsis to the SUBURBAN THUG character, star of the first episode, taking place over a one-day period. Suburban Thugs are white males in their teens or twenties who attempt to emulate rap musicians in both dress and demeanor. The concept for "Human Nature Show" defined above underlines the synopsis below.

Episode 1: Suburban Thug

Suburbia. With a wardrobe consisting of an oversize white t-shirt, Timberlands, and askew New York Yankees hat, Suburban Thug sits on his patio. While enjoying a sunny

mid-morning of doing nothing, he is interrupted by a phone call invitation to an afternoon pool party with non-thug friends. He speaks in one-syllable words with a hint of apathy, then accepts. Becoming bored, a phone call is made to a thug friend to discuss forming a suburban gang. Before relaxing again, MOTHER THUG calls him for lunch. His tone becomes respectful and proper as he dashes inside. While waiting, Suburban Thug snaps a few pictures with a B.B. gun on his cellular phone to send to friends. Mother Thug lectures him on not having guns at the table. He apologizes and she gives him his meal. While enjoying his sandwich, he asks if he can have his friends over later but Mother Thug gives an unfavorable response. He pleads his case to no avail. Finally, he asks for handkerchiefs for future gang members to wear, and again she scolds him on the topic.

Later that day at a pool party, Suburban Thug is relaxing by himself in the pool while fully clothed--including shoes. His non-thug friends are having polite conversations, dressed in standard pool attire. He asked the pool owner to host a gang meeting but was quickly denied. Now in a bad mood, he refuses to interact with anyone beyond snapping his fingers to request a drink. Because she finds his tough guy act charming, a female friend graciously gets his beverage. Suburban Thug attempts to flirt with her during this encounter by not moving close enough to grab the drink from her hand. She quickly grows annoyed and throws his drink at him. Satisfied with the perceived success in flirting, he smiles at her but stumbles upon exiting the pool. Recovering quickly, he walks away.

After drying off, Suburban Thug meets his friend STEVE, who is African-American, at the neighborhood park. Steve is finishing a salad and opts not to have the black and white cookie for dessert. He offers it to Suburban Thug who takes a bite of the chocolate side only. Thinking this act signifies cultural acceptance with Steve, he hands the treat back. Steve looks perplexed as Suburban Thug goes on to explain his gang idea. Before any response, Suburban Thug gets a phone call from his girlfriend STACY and runs off. A confused Steve shakes his head.

Suburban Thug meets Stacy at her parent's house. No one is home, so they proceed to Stacy's bedroom. Suburban Thug asks her to be his Thug Queen. She quickly accepts without knowing what her position entails. After receiving a phone

call that lasts several minutes, Stacy hangs up and reiterates the entire story to the Suburban Thug who by this point is bored out of his mind. He stopped paying attention after her Thug Queen agreement; his follow up question is on the topic of ring tones. Now attempting to be intimate, he invites Stacy to join him in his oversize t-shirt but pauses to answer a text message from an old girlfriend. Stacy questions who is messaging him, but he cannot offer a valid response. Despite his obvious lie, Stacy is not bothered and engendering ensues. Suburban Thug leaves soon after to prepare for the meeting but not before telling Stacy to buy handkerchiefs.

Around dinner time, Suburban Thug calls his thug friends to the first gang meeting in his parent's basement. Stacy arrives first, without bringing anything. As others show up, Mother Thug grows suspicious. Five thug members join him and Stacy in the basement—without handkerchiefs. Suburban Thug improvises by distributing paper towels to the group to serve as bandanas. Mother Thug, at her wits end, comes down the steps and kicks everyone out, including her son.

Suburban Thug strolls down the sidewalk in his neighborhood trying thinking of a new plan. A confrontation erupts when he bumps into SUBURBAN THUG-2, also going for a walk. To fend off one another, they flash their jewelry in a process called "blinging." Suburban Thug has lost this exchange wearing only one piece of jewelry; Suburban Thug-2 has two. This prompts both thugs to go into a self-hug defensive posture. After a few moments, they stretch their arms out to form a 'T' shape with their bodies. Then bump chests. Suddenly, MOTHER THUG-2 comes to pick up her son for dinner. Neither thug notices the approaching car. Raising their arms further, they form a 'Y' shape. Mother Thug-2 pulls up and Suburban Thug-2 gets in while giving the peace sign. Accepting this offering, Suburban Thug makes a fist and pounds his chest. In his own mind, he is tough enough and realizes there is no need for a gang.

Completely unaffected by today's events, Suburban Thug struts off into the sunset.

### **Episode List**

Episode 1: Suburban Thug. Suburbia is not ready to handle a harmless teenager who dreams of forming his own gang of thugs.

Episode 2: Clever Southerner: A resourceful man, complete with an incoherent accent, must get ready for a backyard boxing match with his neighbor. Afterwards, they host a joint barbeque.

Episode 3: Reality TV, PhD. A housewife and self-proclaimed expert at reality television wants to kick her children out of the house for not loving her enough. This leads her to host a family elimination contest.

Episode 4: Emotional Emo. The world is his oyster, and oysters have feelings too which is why a youth needs to protest shellfish consumption to gain acceptance in an after school club.

Episode 5: Motorhead. An American automotive loving mechanic must quickly fix a foreign car, to his dismay, so he can arrive on time at the local convenience store parking lot to talk about cars with his friends.

Episode 6: Basement Dweller. Between energy drinks and LAN parties, a poor nerd must find the time to sell his videogame collection in order to purchase a cutting-edge computer.

Episode 7: Celebrity Stalker. A twenty-something cannot handle being separated from his true love so he sets his sights on Hollywood to propose. She has no idea who he is, unfortunately.

Episode 8: Televangelist Superhero. No being is greater than a pastor who gives more thought into his wardrobe than his sermons. His misplaced passion is exposed when the mayor asks him to prepare a speech for the community center bake sale.

Episode 9: Catty Kitty. Tabloid headlines always overshadow world politics for an upper-middle class housewife and SUV owner. She must get her nails done in time for a bridge game with her rival.

Episode 10: Bar Father. Being over-the-hill makes coasting around the bar much more obvious to other patrons but for an older gentleman, it is a game and he is the star player. Practice makes perfect in a karaoke contest to win over a girl half his age.

Episode 11: Feuding Siblings. Two children, one male and the other female, battle for their parents love and checkbook. Only one child can go with their father, a safety inspector, to evaluate the new amusement park ride so both children fight for the spotlight.

Episode 12: Hollywood High Schooler. Five popped-collar Lacoste shirts worn at the same time help maintain an image of wealth for one high school student. His status is challenged by a new female bombshell from California.

Episode 13: Unsportsmanlike Fan. A father of two, who would only win a couch-sitting contest, loves talking about his peewee football glory days. His unfounded claims of knowing more than any professional sports journalist prompts him to create the ultimate fantasy football league.