~

Film & TV 🔻





Things to Do 🔻

Food & Drink - Theatre & The Arts -

Music & Nightlife - Sho

Wed Feb 27 2013

Shopping & Lifestyle
Tickets & Offers

America's Poor Kids

Wed Mar 6, 9-10pm, BBC2

By Gabriel Tate

Time Out Ratings



📩 Like 📑 Be the first of your friends to like this.

If ever we wished a format wasn't exportable, it's this. But Brian Woods and Jezza Neumann's concept of analysing the realities and effects of poverty through interviews with children proves just as punishingly effective in the States as it did in 2011's UK documentary.

Focusing on three lowan families laid low by the recession, it exposes the fallacy of right-wing claims that welfare is a hammock rather than a safety net. The parents are desperate to work and the kids desperate to learn, but unemployment benefit is pitiful, medical insurance scanty and waiting lists for subsidised housing on the rise. Theirs are itinerant lives of homeless shelters, motels and a constant, gnawing hunger.

As ever, the kids cut to the quick with the heartbreaking maturity of their observations: 'Grades is my only way out of here,' says 13-year-old Johnny; 'This is not the Great American Dream,' reckons 11-year-old Sarah. Yet there's no self-pity, which, perhaps oddly, makes this important film as inspiring as it does despairing.

Today's TV highlights

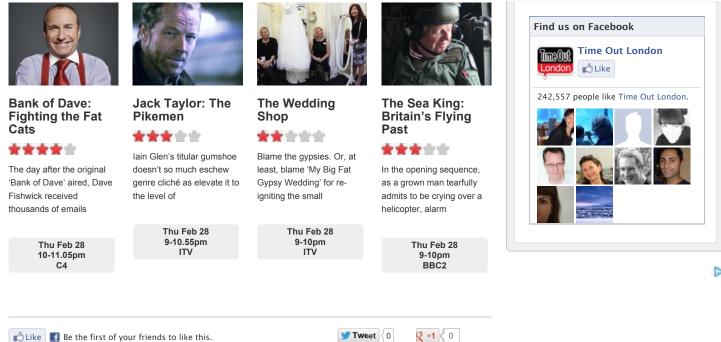
Search		
Keywords (op	tional)	
All zones	All dates	~
All areas	All areas	~
		Find

Latest TV features



- Charlie Brooker talks 'Black Mirror'
- The best bits from the Brits
- Is racism still an issue for TV drama?
- London's top ten TV detectives
- House of Cards





Share your thoughts

Name *	Email *	
Comment *		
Johnnent		

About us

Time Out products

Time Out London magazine

Advertising

Site map



