

Table of Contents

List of Illustrations	ix
Acknowledgements	xiii
Chapter One: Overview: Why TV? Why Teachers?	1
Chapter Two: 1950s Gender Wars: <i>Mister Peepers</i> and <i>Our Miss Brooks</i>	22
Chapter Three: 1960s Race and Social Relevancy: <i>The Bill Cosby Show</i> and <i>Room 222</i>	37
Chapter Four: 1970s Ideology and Social Class: <i>Welcome Back, Kotter</i> and <i>The Paper Chase</i>	56
Chapter Five: 1980s Normalizing Meritocracy: <i>The Facts of Life</i> and <i>Head of the Class</i>	76
Chapter Six: 1990s Gaining Ground from Margin to Center: <i>Hangin' With Mr. Cooper</i> and <i>My So-Called Life</i>	101
Chapter Seven: 2000s Embracing Multiculturalism: <i>Boston Public</i> and <i>The Wire</i>	132
Chapter Eight: 2010s Downward Spiral: From <i>Madam Secretary</i> to <i>Teachers</i>	177
Chapter Nine: Afterword: Technology and Reclaiming the Teacher Narrative	213
Index	221