

TV Pilot Season's Family Affair

As *Modern Family* grows old, the Big Four networks desperately seek the next all-ages comedy hit as *THR* sorts through the 27 (yes, 27!) eerily similar projects in development By Bryn Elise Sandberg and Michael O'Connell

DID YOU BUY A FAMILY COMEDY PILOT?

Two roads diverged in a pitch meeting — and you took the one less traveled. Of the 44 comedies being made this season, a mere 17 are *not* family-focused.

Does it star a 34-year-old woman playing a 14-year-old boy?

Could it also be described as a workplace comedy?



THE HYBRIDS

Fox's *The Enforcers*
— or —
NBC's *Untitled Tracey Wigfield*

There's no typecasting on Fox's *Chad: An American Boy*, in which *SNL* alum Nasim Pedrad tackles the pubescent role.



Pedrad

Is your fictional family athletically inclined?



Geoff Stults

INSTANT PARENT

Fox's *The Mick*
— or —
Fox's *Untitled Chris Case*
— or —
ABC's *Untitled Goldberg/Guarascio*

ABC's *Downward Dog*

Is one-half of this family a talking-dog narrator?

GO SPORTS!

CBS' *The Kicker*
— or —
ABC's *The Dream Team*

Is this nondog family extra dysfunctional?

Well, is the comedic foil a pair of aging parents?

Did these kids come out of nowhere, *Baby Boom*-style?

CAN'T LIVE WITH OR WITHOUT 'EM

ABC's *Hail Mary*
— or —
NBC's *Untitled Vladimir Caamano*
— or —
NBC's *Untitled Poehler/Grandy*

Are the kids as prominently featured as the adults?

MOMMIES DEAREST

ABC's *The Second Fattest Housewife in Westport*
— or —
ABC's *Pearl*



Candice Bergen

THEY SAY THE DARNDEST THINGS

CBS' *Untitled Stephanie Weir*
— or —
CBS' *What Goes Around Comes Around*
— or —
ABC's *Speechless*
— or —
ABC's *Chunk and Bean*

PARENTAL PROBLEMS

NBC's *Untitled Matt Hubbard*
— or —
NBC's *Sebastian*
— or —
CBS' *Untitled Butler/Hope/O'Shannon*

But the kids still are a pain in the ass, right?

Oh, so it's a Mom show?



Matt LeBlanc

SUBURBAN STRUGGLES

CBS' *I'm Not Your Friend** | Fox's *Son of Zorn** | CBS' *Untitled Kevin James** | NBC's *Marlon* | ABC's *The Fluffy Shop*

KUDOS!

Your family comedy is ABC's *Square Roots*, which follows a gaggle of logic-driven engineers and the son who uses his "gift" to help them ... whatever the heck that means!

*Projects that already have received a series commitment.