# Netflix's 'Adolescence' gains critical acclaim as most-streamed show in the US



The recent launch of Netflix's drama series "Adolescence" has seized the attention of audiences both in the UK and beyond, securing its position as the most-streamed show on the platform in the United States. The series, which focuses on the challenging themes surrounding the life of 13-year-old Jamie Miller, accused of murdering a classmate, has not only garnered critical acclaim for its powerful storytelling and performances but also for its exceptional technical execution. Each of the four hour-long episodes was shot in a single take, a feat accomplished through extensive planning and innovative techniques employed by the production team.

Speaking to The Guardian, Stephen Graham, who stars in the series, shared insights into the origins of "Adolescence," revealing that it stemmed from a project he initially participated in as a favour for a friend. Graham recounted how director Philip Barantini approached him with the aspiration to direct a film, leading to the creation of the well-received one-shot film "Boiling Point," which eventually paved the way for "Adolescence."

Given the subject matter, the production team took extensive measures to ensure that Owen Cooper, the young actor playing Jamie, was well cared for during filming. Barantini mentioned that a child psychologist and numerous chaperones were on set to provide support. Cooper displayed resilience throughout, focusing on his leisure pursuits, notably his fondness for swingball, even amid emotionally charged scenes.

A notable technical accomplishment in "Adolescence" includes an intricate drone shot featured in the second episode. Barantini explained that the shot involved synchronising the drone with the cinematographer, Matthew Lewis, who had to execute precise movements to capture the next scene. Originally intended to conclude with a drone flyover, the final sequence was changed last minute, leading to a nail-biting final take that successfully captured the essence of the moment.

In addition to its innovative filming techniques, "Adolescence" was filmed in various real locations, necessitating meticulous research and planning. Barantini and Lewis worked closely to map out scenes, ensuring they had the necessary arrangements for filming in multiple sites, including the police station set and an actual house used for the Miller family's home.

Meanwhile, the personal experiences of a couple from South Kirkby, Pontefract, have drawn attention. Bethany Fletcher and Dylan Naylor expressed their astonishment at having their home featured as the Millers' residence in the series. The couple noted that the experience felt like "winning the postcode lottery," leading to a unique opportunity for them and their children. Their home, a typical 1960s property, underwent significant modifications for filming, with virtually all of their furniture replaced.

Fletcher recounted their surprise upon receiving a letter of interest from the production company, which led to a whirlwind of activities. During filming, the couple temporarily relocated multiple times, accommodating the production schedule. The family returned to their home after the completion of filming in September 2023 and subsequently binge-watched the show. Fletcher noted that they enjoyed seeing their home transformed for the drama, despite the challenges of the filming schedule.

Overall, "Adolescence" is not just a showcase of compelling narratives and performances, but also a standout example of technical ingenuity, while the experiences of families involved in the production highlight the far-reaching effects of film and television projects extending beyond the screen.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.cosmopolitan.com/entertainment/tv/a64206080/how-adolescence-filmed-each-episode-one-take/> - This article explains how Netflix's 'Adolescence' was filmed in one continuous take for each episode, highlighting the technical challenges and innovative techniques used in the production.
* <https://www.the-independent.com/arts-entertainment/tv/news/adolescence-filmed-one-take-drone-shot-netflix-b2716954.html> - The Independent provides details on the impressive drone shot in 'Adolescence,' showcasing the technical prowess and collaboration involved in capturing such scenes.
* <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27016432/> - IMDb offers information about 'Adolescence,' including its cast, crew, and production details, which can support claims about the series' critical acclaim and technical achievements.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2023/jun/15/boiling-point-review-philip-barantini-stephen-graham> - This Guardian article discusses Philip Barantini's work on 'Boiling Point,' which shares a similar one-shot technique with 'Adolescence,' highlighting Barantini's experience with such filming methods.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - The original source article from Noah Wire Services provides an overview of 'Adolescence,' including its storyline, production challenges, and the experiences of families involved in the filming process.
* <https://www.netflix.com/gb/title/81464535> - Netflix's official page for 'Adolescence' offers details about the series, its availability, and viewer engagement, supporting claims about its popularity and streaming performance.