

**OPINION** 

## YOUR SAY: MasterChef Australia serves up mediocre judges



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There should be a parental guidance warning given before MasterChef airs advising parents that of the judges appearing, one in particular lacks some of the cooking, table and dining manners that parents try to instil in, and expect of their children!

Competition cooking shows like MasterChef Australia draw a wide audience and influence many aspiring cooks - both young and old - to not only become chefs, but to eat healthy and fresh foods.

Children learn by seeing and doing; they mimic those social behaviours that they are exposed to without realising that the characteristics they are openly exhibiting are not necessarily correct and socially acceptable.

MasterChef Australia judge George Calombaris is well-noted for his bad table manners and was even most recently admonished by the internationally acclaimed food writer and guest judge Nigella Lawson for eating his food off a knife.

Calombaris appears to be lacking in rudimentary table manners, not even knowing the correct way to hold a knife and fork, he tears his food rather than cutting it, he eats with his mouth wide open, lifts his dishes from the table when eating and he handles food with his fingers when plating and serving to fellow judges.

Social etiquette and table manners were once considered the mainstay of family dining, both within and outside of the home.

MasterChef judges should lift their own game first before being critical of, and finding fault in contestants.