

'Parks and Recreation' destroys 'The Office'

If you had asked me before the summer of 2016 whether I liked "Parks and Recreation" or "The Office" better, I would have, without a doubt, responded with "The Office." Then, a miracle happened – I actually watched all seven seasons of "Parks and Recreation," not just an episode here and there. My life changed completely after that.

Yes, I know "The Office" has nine seasons, which means more binge watching, but honestly, "Parks and Recreation" has more entertainment and covered more in its seven season than "The Office" did in its nine. I know – disgraceful, right? Wrong. "Parks and Recreation" has more complete, nuanced, interesting characters.

One of the biggest weaknesses of "The Office," in my opinion, is that Jim and Pam aren't actually very deep characters. Jim wants basically one thing (Pam), and Pam doesn't really want anything. There are "big payoff" moments whenever their rela-

tionship moves forward a step, but they're otherwise holes in the center of the show.

TV Review
Katherine Cox
Photo Editor



"Parks and Recreation" has more stories. While there's nothing at all wrong with a show being episodic, it's easier to get invested in a show that has more thoroughness.

One of the subtle differences between the shows is that "Parks and Recreation" was written in a world where re-watching and binge watching were "things" to a significantly greater extent than "The Office." The characters in "Parks and Recreation" routinely strive for things, while characters in "The Office" are mostly fixed.

I love both shows, and I binge them every year, sometimes twice in the same year. Here's

the thing though – they are very different shows. To compare them is unfair. They each have very different characters, and very different stories.

"The Office" offers me something unique that "Parks and Recreation" does not – the characters are satisfying to study. Every binge watch reveals something new about a character I might've missed on the last binge watch.

That being said, my favorite is still "Parks and Recreation." Instead of making a spectacle of the weirdness each character possesses as they do in "The Office," "Parks and Recreation" celebrates that weirdness. The characters' misfit personalities drive them forward and help them achieve fantastic things. More importantly, the characters make me happy. Leslie Knope makes me feel like I can do anything I put my mind to. Andy's unending optimism takes him on some wonderful adventures and experiences. Even Tom manages turn his ideas into tangible things,

and there is an impressive amount of world-building in Pawnee, so much so that Pawnee is a character. It has a connection to each of the other characters. It grows just as they grow. So, for me, "Parks and Recreation" has a special place in my heart.

"The Office" has a much higher peak, but I think it suffered from some decisions they made for their later seasons. I wasn't big into Sabre and Robert California and Clark Duke and generally post-Michael. "The Office" is one of my favorite shows though, just not above "Parks and Recreation," and I constantly re-watch those early seasons.

Don't get me wrong, I still love "The Office" completely and will always find myself laughing at its earlier seasons, but honestly after season five, it just doesn't do it for me anymore. It just feels dragged on and that they didn't want it to end, but they didn't know how to continue it so they just BS'd their way through four more seasons.

"The Office," season two and three for example, have some of the most strongest and realistic characters, but as the show goes on the characters almost become caricatures of their former selves. "Parks and Recreation," on the other hand, has characters that for the first two seasons only have one or two traits. As the show goes on, the characters grow and become more realistic.

"Parks and Recreation" ends with some very strong and well-written characters, while "The Office" ends on the opposite side of the spectrum. "Parks and Recreation" started all right, became amazing and finished strong. "The Office" started really great, became amazing and finished pretty poorly. "Parks and Recreation" was more consistent, while "The Office" fell off a cliff and should have bowed gracefully and take the L when Michael left.

Katherine Cox is a freshman majoring in communication. You may contact her at katherine.cox2@sckans.edu

Avid gamer predicts the next 'Game of the Year'

Game Review
JC Fuentes
Staff reporter



"PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds" is number one on PC.

The demand for newer and better video games has always been high and likely always will be. Year after year, game developers and companies strive for releasing the "Game of the Year." For some, their games get unnoticed and buried among the other titles that failed to capture gamers.

For others, their games end up being some of the top, most-played games in the world.

"PUBG" was designed by Brendan Green (PlayerUnknown) and developed by Bluehole Studio Inc. It is battle royal-type

game that features players on an island trying to be the last man or last team standing.

It features an open world map and has weapons and consumables for the player to aid them in this task. It is a multiplayer game and usually has a lobby of 90 to 100 players.

"PUBG" uses game mechanics similar to any other first person shooter game. It lacks story and character development, but makes up for it by having an extremely fun and interactive multiplayer mode.

There is a huge multiplayer mode that guarantees play time with other players as well as the randomization of spawning in a different area and finding different weapons and items. It is one of the reasons why this game is considered the number one game on Steam.



Most games do not grab the player's attention, due to lack of story or plan gameplay. "PUBG" manages to do this just from gameplay alone, and it doesn't need a story to do so. As a gamer, I like to keep myself entertained when I play

a game.

This game has done that for me every time I log on. That's just something most video games can't do anymore, and it is why most gamers tend to not try new games and continue to play the ones they already

have.

"PUBG" has not only managed to break most gamers out of that habit, but has also introduced players to a whole new type of game.

"PUBG" is still in its beta stage, which means players can look forward to future updates until the game is officially complete. However, the fact that there are still a lot of bugs and glitches in the game hasn't stopped players from playing it constantly.

The final version of the game plans to be released sometime by the end of this year, and when it does, it will continue to be the top game on Steam for a long time.

JC Fuentes is a sophomore with a major in communication. You may email him at jc.fuentes@sckans.edu