

# Adelaide Fringe 2016 Review: That Siege in Adelaide

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The Advertiser

That Siege in Adelaide

\*\*, Theatre

Bakehouse Theatre, until March 5

THE synopsis of this show has a lot of promise. A show parodying the media's coverage of the massage parlour hostage situation on King William St in 2014? Brilliant.

Not quite.

While the idea of two fictional TV stations fighting each other for ratings sounds entertaining, the script is too weak to hold the audience's interest.

It's not insightful enough and relies too heavily on stereotypes. The female characters are particularly poor – there's the man-hating feminist in the grey suit, ditzy news anchor with the hots for the policeman (who is more interested in the male journo – another cheap laugh) and uptight interstate reporter who had a fling with the Adelaide bloke. Perhaps the writer is trying to be ironic, or taking inspiration from Aaron Sorkin.

The script isn't completely devoid of clever moments though.

Overall the acting isn't extraordinary but there are some standouts, and a few of them got the news voice down pat.

The piece has so much potential; it's just not there yet. – SOPHIE PERRI