REPUBLIC
OF
SOUTH AFRICA



REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

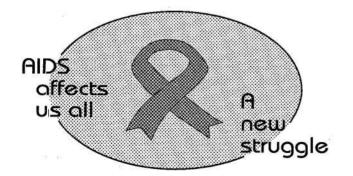
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PRETORIA, 15 SEPTEMBER 2000

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We all have the power to prevent AIDS



Prevention is the cure

AIDS HEUPUNE

0800 012 322

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

No. 944

15 September 2000

FILMS AND PUBLICATIONS ACT, NO. 65 OF 1996 FILM AND PUBLICATION BOARD

AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES FOLLOWING PUBLIC FEEDBACK (SECTION 31(3) OF THE FILMS AND PUBLICATIONS ACT, 1996) TO MAKE THE GUIDELINES FINAL AND BINDING FOR THE YEAR SEPTEMBER 2000 TO AUGUST 2001.

"A" : suitable for all ages

Films in this category are suitable for all ages. They contain nothing considered harmful or disturbing to even very young children.

Theme

No themes are treated in a way that might threaten a child's sense of security or well-being.

Language

No strong language.

Drugs

There are no scenes condoning, promoting, glamorising or encouraging the use of drugs, including alcohol and

cigarettes.

Prejudice

If the film contains any prejudice or negative stereotyping, the context makes it clear that such prejudice is wrong. The issue is resolved in a way that both supports human rights values and can be understood by even young

children.

Nudity

There may be brief scenes of nudity in non-sexual contexts.

Sex

There are no scenes of sexual activity beyond brief kissing.

Violence

There are no scenes of violence, irrespective of genre.

Because films classified "A" contain no classifiable elements, no consumer information is provided for them.

"PG": Parental Guidance

This is an advisory category. It alerts parents to the fact that the film contains some material that might confuse or upset some children who watch it alone. Parents are advised to monitor the contents, either by finding out more about the film or by watching it with their children.

Theme

No themes are treated in a way that might threaten a child's sense of security or well-being. A "PG" classification without consumer information indicates that children may need parental guidance on the theme. A "PG" classification with consumer information alerts parents to minimal classifiable elements.

Language

Strong language (swear-words, threats, abuse, profanity or prejudice) is infrequent and occurs only within context.

Drugs

There are no scenes condoning, promoting, glamorising or encouraging the use of drugs, including alcohol and

cigarettes.

Prejudice

If the film contains any prejudice or negative stereotyping, the context makes it clear that such prejudice is wrong. The issue is resolved in a way that both supports human rights values and can be understood by even young children.

Nudity

There may be brief scenes of nudity in non-sexual contexts.

Sex

There may be brief scenes of implied sexual activity. These are few and discreet. There are no close-ups and no frontal nudity in the implied sexual scenes.

Violence

Brief scenes of minimal violence may occur. There are no prolonged or extreme images of violence (eg. a victim suffering, graphic close-ups, long shoot-outs). The film shows that violence has consequences. People who commit violence are punished or suffer remorse. The final outcome is positive. There may be mild threats, menace or suspense. Scenes of moderate violence occur only in clearly contextualised comic, historical, fantastical or natural disaster settings.

"10": Not suitable for children under the age of 10 years

This is a legally restrictive classification. No child under the age of 10 years may be allowed to watch such a film in a cinema or rent such a video or DVD.

Theme Themes may be complex but outcomes reinforce positive social values. The overall message is reassuring to a child's sense of security and well-being.

Language There may be infrequent strong language occuring within the context of the story.

Drugs Scenes of drug use may occur. They are brief and within the context of the story. No instructional detail is given and

drug use is not glamorised.

Prejudice If bias or negative stereotyping occurs, it is resolved within the context of the story. The overall message supports

human rights values.

Nudity Brief scenes of nudity may occur. These will be in context and without lingering close-ups.

Sex There are no scenes of explicit sexual activity. Any scenes of implied sexual activity must add to the development of

the plot, characterisation and theme. There will be no lingering close-ups or suggestive audio effects.

Violence Violent scenes may occur. These do not last long and are neither graphic nor gory. They take place in the context of

the story. Violence is not shown as glamorous. Its consequences are clear.

Where threat, menace or suspense occurs, it will not be disturbing to children of 10 years.

Consumer information is provided, depending on how often and how intensely classifiable elements occur.

"13" : Not suitable for children under the age of 13 years

This is a legally restrictive classification. No child under the age of 13 years may be allowed to watch such a film in a cinema or rent such a video or DVD.

Theme Themes may be more adult than in films classified "10", "PG" or "A". They may include troubling social or moral issues, but these are handled with sensitivity. Outcomes are positive and viewers aged 13 will be able to understand

them.

Language There may be strong language within context. There may be language and dialogue exploring anti-social values,

occuring within context as part of the plot or characterisation, but with positive resolutions.

Drugs There may be scenes of drug abuse. These occur within context, and negative consequences of drug-taking are

explored. There is no instructive detail or glamorisation of drug-taking.

Prejudice Some scenes showing bias or negative stereotyping may occur. These are resolved within the context of the story.

Nudity Scenes of nudity may occur, without lingering close-ups and within the context of the story enhance the plot or

character development.

Sex

There may be brief scenes of implied sexual activity, related to the development of plot, theme or character. There is no suggestion of abuse, violence or exploitation in such scenes.

Violence

Scenes of realistic and intense violence may occur within a meaningful context, forming part of plot or character development. Graphic or gory details (eg. close-ups) are infrequent. There are no scenes glamorising or condoning violence. Scenes of domestic and psychological violence, including

sexual threat, may occur within the context of the theme and only if the outcome supports positive social values.

Consumer information is provided, depending on how often and how intensely classifiable elements occur.

Glossary of words and phrases

This glossary or list of definitions gives the meaning of key words as they are used in the guidelines.

abusive

rude, disrespectful, harmful, showing contempt

bias

prejudice: a slanted and unjust attitude (usually towards minority or outsider groups)

classification

placing in categories or groups according to the frequency and intensity of classifiable elements (strong language, nudity, prejudice, sex, and violence)

an image in graphic detail, as if seen from very near

context

close-up

surroundings or background; the whole picture; the other parts of a film, video or game which come before and after a particular incident and clarify its meaning

discreet

restrained, modest, inoffensive; an image shown from a distance, without lingering on close-up detail

expletive

oath, swearword or curse

explicit

candid, leaving nothing to the imagination; focusing on close-up detail

exploitative

making use of someone or something for selfish or

improper reasons

extreme

exceptionally intense, graphic or prolonged fantastical not realistic, not of this world (eg. fairy tales, science fiction)

frequent

often

frequency

how often something occurs

gory

bloody; detailed, graphic images of violence

graphic

vivid, showing all the details

gratuitous

lacking good reason; elements in a film, video or game which add nothing to the development of plot or character

implied

not shown or said directly but strongly suggested or hinted at

incite

arouse, stir up, inflame

instructive

instructing or showing how to do something

intensity

strength, power, force (in film, the intensity of a scene depends on how long it is, sound and lighting effects, language, context, and whether it is shot from a distance or close-up)

legally restrictive limiting by law

mainstream produced for the general public and available in ordinary cinemas and stores

menacing threatening; suggesting harm and arousing fear

mild moderate, slight, understated

negative insulting, hostile

nudity nakedness

pre-judgement; bias; negative or hostile attitude (usually towards minority or outsider groups) based not on facts or

individual experience but on group stereotypes

positive outcome a result or conclusion that supports human rights values; an overall message in accord with the view that it

is important to strive to be a decent human being

profanity blasphemy; language showing lack of respect in regard to religious or sacred matters

protagonist the main character in a film or game; the hero or heroine

sexual activity kissing, caressing, embracing, love-making; physical intimacy between two people (in mainstream films, even in the

"18" category, images of sexual activity are never as explicit as in adults-only "X18" material, eg. there is no focus on

the genitals

stereotype a fixed idea which reduces individuals to a standard, usually prejudiced group mould.

strong language abusive, profane or swearword

swearword expletive, oath, curse, foul language.

theme subject matter; what a film is about



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