

Board Report

T01/466



Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995
CLASSIFICATION BOARD

DETAILS OF THE FILM:

FILE No T01/466
Processing Date: 28 May 2001

Title: FREDDY GOT FINGERED

Producer: HOWARD LAPIDES/ LARRY BREZNER/ LAUREN LLOYD
Director: TOM GREEN
Production Co:
Country Of Origin: USA
Applicant: TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM DIST. PTY LTD
Language: ENGLISH
Format: 35 mm
Duration: 87 MINUTE(S)
Version: ORIGINAL
Colour/B&W: Colour
Application Type: dual PE + S/H 61-90 mins

PROCEDURE:

The Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995, and the Classification Guidelines approved by the standing Committee of Attorneys General, are followed when classifying films.

Item Viewed: YES **Viewing Date:** 28 May 2001
Written submissions: NO **Oral submissions:** NO

MATERIAL CONSIDERED:

In classifying this item regard was had to the following:

- (i) The Application YES
- (ii) A written synopsis of the item YES
- (iii) The Item YES
- (iv) Other NO

DECISION

- (1) Classification: R 18 +
- (2) Consumer Advice: ADULT THEMES
- (3) Key: O(adult themes)
- (4) Ratified By: [REDACTED]
(Senior Classifier)

3015101

SYNOPSIS:

A 28 year old man living with his parents dreams of being an animator but his father pressures him to get a stable job like his younger brother.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION:

In the Board's opinion the film warrants an R classification as, in accordance with Part 3 of the Films Table of the National Classification Code, it contains material that is unsuitable for a minor to see.

Pursuant to the Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Videotapes, the film warrants an R classification for adult themes that are unsuitable for those under 18 years and require an adult perspective.

Adult Themes:

The film deals with themes of a very high degree of intensity that are not discreet and cannot be accommodated at a lower classification. Furthermore, there is a cumulative impact due to a number of strong themes and depictions and as such, the Board is of the view that an adult perspective is required.

The film deals with themes of a very high degree of intensity that are not discreet and cannot be accommodated at a lower classification. Furthermore, there is a cumulative impact due to a number of strong themes and depictions and as such, the Board is of the view that an adult perspective is required. While the film is produced with humorous intent, it is likely to be offensive to some sections of the adult community.

9.00 mins. Gord passes a stud farm and stops his car when he sees farm workers with a stallion. He rushes over to the horse and grabs its erect penis. He waggles the horse's penis while shouting "oh look at me daddy, I'm a farmer!" In the Board's view, a man handling a horse's penis for comic effect is likely to be offensive to some adults. While the majority of the Board did not interpret the scene as a sexual act, it is nevertheless a contributing factor in restricting the film to an adult audience.

18.00 mins. While driving, Gord finds a dead deer on the road. He has been advised to "get inside" the animal characters he draws so he slits open the deer exposing its organs and then stands up with the bloody carcass over him. Gord proceeds to dance around on the road with the carcass and is covered with its blood and flesh. He is then dramatically hit by a truck and is seen dragged along the road for some distance, still covered with the skin.

26.00 mins. A woman in the bed next to Gord's friend goes into labor and begins to scream for a doctor. Gord puts on a gown and stands at the foot of the bed to assist the delivery. He tells the woman to spread her legs as he fumbles under her gown. As Gord implicitly tugs the baby out, he falls back holding the child covered in blood. He bites the umbilical cord attaching baby to mother but the mother is distressed at not hearing the baby cry. Gord swings the baby around his head by the umbilical cord which sprays the room and everyone in it with blood. He then cradles it when it cries and hands it to the blood splattered mother. The majority of the Board felt this scene was highly unrealistic but was nevertheless a theme with a very high degree of intensity.

31.00 mins. Gord's girlfriend Betty is a paraplegic in a wheelchair. She is keen to engage in sexual activity with him and encourages him to hit her legs as a sexual stimulant. Gord is seen beating her legs numerous times with a cane which does not appear to cause any damage but sexually excites Betty who moans and gasps with pleasure. Gord accidentally hits her in the face at which she exclaims "fuck" and appears upset but she is soon tugging at his trousers offering a "blow job".

56.00 mins. Gord's father is enraged with his son and begins to chastise him. Gord tells him "fuck you" at which his father lowers his pants, exposes his bare buttocks and yells "do you want to fuck me? They continue to shout at each other until Gord's mother comes down the stairs and sees her husband with his trousers lowered, waving his buttocks about and telling his son "come on over and fuck me". Gord's mother is visibly shocked and upset. The scene has a very high degree of intensity due to Gord having falsely accused his father of molesting his younger brother during a counselling session.

As well as the scenes outlined above, there is a running gag in which a child is constantly injured during the film and is seen with cuts and bruises from his various accidents. At the end of the film, the boy is implicitly hit by the plane's propeller with a resulting blood splatter. He is heard to say "I'm okay daddy!"

Adding to the cumulative impact of the adult themes is a scene at 78.00 minutes when Gord rushes into a tent, grabs an elephant's penis and appears to spray his father with the elephant's semen. His father calls him a "sick son of a bitch". Unlike the scene involving a horse's penis, the elephant scene is unrealistic but the concept has considerable impact and intensity.

In conclusion, the majority of the Board was of the view that the film is not suitable for those under 18 years of age due to a number of adult themes with a very high degree of intensity that are not discreet. The Board felt it was not sufficient to restrict the film to a mature audience as it is unsuitable for those under eighteen and particularly unsuitable for children under fifteen even in the company of a parent or adult guardian.

A minority of the Board were of the opinion that the film could be accommodated at MA with the additional consumer advice of violence and sexual references.

Classification Board Decision: **FREDDY GOT FINGERED**