

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

## **CLASSIFICATION OF A FILM:**

<b>DETAILS OF THE FILM:</b>		Processing	<b>g Date</b> (s): 14.3.97
Dubbed:	Lisa Bruce, Rober Buddy Giovinazzo USA Network Entertai 97 mins VHS Colour		<b>Version :</b> English
<b>PROCEDURE:</b> The Classification (Publications, Guidelines approved by the Statelassifying films.	Films and Computer anding Committee	Games) Act 1995 of Attorneys Ger	, and the Classification neral, are followed when
Film viewed: Screening date: 14.3.97 Written submissions: Oral submissions		YES YES	O
MATERIAL CONSIDERED: In classifying this film regard (i) The application (ii) A written synopsi (iii) The film (iv) Other		following: YES YES NO	
DECISION:			
<ul> <li>film Classification:</li> <li>consumer advice:</li> <li>RATIFIED BY</li> </ul>	R  Medium level  (Senior Clas	19	13197

## SYNOPSIS:

Joey is released from prison after serving six years for a crime committed by his brother Tommy. Tommy is still dealing in trouble and ends up killing Joey's parole officer during a misunderstanding. Tommy seeks to blame Joey for this incident as well, however both Joey and Tommy's wife Lorraine stand up to Tommy.

## **REASONS FOR THE DECISION:**

In the Board's opinion, this video warrants an R classification for a contextually justified sequence of violence which is prolonged and has a high impact.

The sequence begins at approx 69 mins and continues to approx 90 mins. A description of the scene follows.

Unhappy drug customers arrive to demand recompense for being sold oregano. Soon after three heavies arrive and implicitly punch Tommy and demand money from him. They slash his stomach through his t-shirt which bloodies. They implicitly punch him again and then implicitly break his pinkie finger. While the heavies examine some loot, Tommy crawls across the bloodied floor to get a gun from the kitchen drawer. He kicks one of the men in the groin and then forces the gun into the man's mouth, saying "Let's show your friends how you suck cock." He then smashes a bottle over this man's head, kicks another in the head and holds a gun to the third's head, before he orders them out of his house. Tommy packs some things and is then interrupted by Joey's parole officer who taps at the window and then enters the house with his gun drawn. Tommy hits him hard over the head from behind. A blood puddle forms underneath the officer's head. Tommy realises he is dead and drags him across the kitchen floor leaving a noticeable blood trail. This is intercut with flashback visuals and Joey telling Lorraine about the crime for which Joey was sent to prison. Joey and Lorraine arrive home and Joey finds the bloody, dead body of his parole officer. They refuse to leave with Tommy. Tommy opens the front door and the three heavies are there. They implicitly punch Tommy and grab Lorraine. Joey strikes out with a baseball bat. One of the men points a gun at Tommy as he says "I've got your fucking cock right here you motherfucker." The man with the gun is hit from behind and the gun fires, implicitly grazing Tommy's head with resultant blood spray onto the cupboard behind Tommy's head. This gunman then jumps Joey who fends him off with a baseball bat. The man gets a knife before he is implicitly shot by Lorraine with resultant blood spray. A bloody post action visual of Tommy is shown and he is implied to be dead until he suddenly appears and harasses Lorraine to back his claim that Joey is responsible for the bloodied activity. The police arrive and surround the house. Tommy walks outside and draws a gin which leads the police to rain bullets at him resulting in multiple blood burst wounds and blood spray on the wall behind him at 90 mins.

In the Board's opinion, the length of the scene, the amount of detail and cumulative impact warrants restriction to an adult audience. The implied finger break after terrorisation of a male, sexualised aggression as in pistols being forced into men's mouths, and the amount of blood letting are considered by the Board to be the stronger elements in the sequence.

Other elements could be accommodated in a lower classification, in the Board's opinion.

Internal office use only

NAME:

SIGNATURE:



FILM VIEWED BY:

SAS RE

DETAILS OF VOTING:

Unanimous

Key:

V (IMJ)

