

return of the living dead parents guide

Return of the Living Dead Parents Guide is an essential resource for parents who want to know what to expect from this cult classic horror-comedy film. Released in 1985, "Return of the Living Dead" has gained a significant following due to its unique blend of horror, humor, and social commentary. However, it is important for parents to understand the film's content before allowing their children to watch it. This article will provide a comprehensive parents guide, detailing themes, language, violence, and other elements that might concern parents.

Overview of the Film

"Return of the Living Dead" is directed by Dan O'Bannon and is notable for being one of the first films to introduce the concept of zombies craving brains. The plot revolves around a group of teenagers and a couple of employees at a medical supply warehouse who inadvertently unleash a zombie plague after a chemical spill. The film is known for its dark humor, clever dialogue, and memorable characters.

Key Themes

Understanding the themes present in "Return of the Living Dead" is crucial for parents evaluating its suitability for younger viewers. Here are some key themes to consider:

1. Life and Death

The film grapples with the concepts of life and death, often blurring the lines between the two. This exploration can lead to discussions about mortality and the afterlife, which may be unsettling for younger audiences.

2. The Consequences of Actions

The characters in the film face dire consequences due to their reckless behavior. This theme serves as a cautionary tale about the importance of thinking before acting, although it is presented in a humorous context.

3. Friendship and Loyalty

Amid the chaos, the bonds between friends are highlighted. The characters rely on one another to survive the terrifying events, showcasing the importance of camaraderie and support during challenging times.

Language and Dialogue

The film contains a fair amount of profanity and crude language, which may not be suitable for younger viewers. Parents should be aware of the following:

- Frequent use of the F-word and other profanity.
- Derogatory terms and sexual innuendos.
- Casual discussions of adult themes that may not be appropriate for children.

Parents should consider whether their children are ready to handle such language and the context in which it is used.

Violence and Gore

"Return of the Living Dead" is known for its graphic depictions of violence and gore, which can be shocking for some viewers. Here are some key points to note:

1. Zombie Attacks

The film features several scenes of zombies attacking characters, resulting in graphic depictions of injury and bloodshed. Zombies are shown biting and tearing into flesh, which can be disturbing.

2. Body Horror

There are instances of body horror, including scenes where characters are dismembered or decayed. The visual effects, while often campy, can be unsettling for sensitive viewers.

3. Death Scenes

Several characters meet gruesome ends throughout the film. Parents should prepare younger viewers for these intense moments, which may evoke fear or anxiety.

Sexual Content

While "Return of the Living Dead" is primarily focused on horror and comedy, it does contain elements of sexual content that parents should be aware of:

- Subtle sexual innuendos and jokes throughout the dialogue.
- Scenes involving nudity, including a memorable scene featuring a character who is briefly topless.
- References to sexual activity, which may not be suitable for younger audiences.

These elements may warrant caution, particularly for children and younger teens.

Drug and Alcohol Use

The film also contains references to drug and alcohol use, which can influence younger viewers. Here are some aspects to consider:

- Characters are seen smoking marijuana and discussing drug use.
- Alcohol consumption is depicted in several scenes, including parties and social gatherings.
- The irresponsible behavior associated with drug use is portrayed, which may send mixed messages to younger audiences.

Parents should discuss these elements with their children to provide context and understanding.

Parental Advisory Rating

"Return of the Living Dead" is rated R for strong language, violence, and sexual content. This rating indicates that the film is intended for mature audiences and may not be suitable for children under 17 without parental guidance.

Considerations for Parents

When deciding whether "Return of the Living Dead" is appropriate for their children, parents should consider the following:

1. **Age and Maturity Level:** Consider the age and maturity of the child. Younger children may not be ready for the film's intense themes and graphic content.
2. **Interest in Horror Genre:** If the child enjoys horror films, they may be more receptive to the film's content, but discussions should still be had regarding its themes.
3. **Ability to Handle Scary Content:** Assess whether the child can handle frightening images and scenarios without being overly disturbed.
4. **Discussion Opportunities:** Use the film as an opportunity to discuss various themes, language, and behaviors depicted, fostering critical thinking about media consumption.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the **Return of the Living Dead Parents Guide** serves as an essential tool for parents considering whether this cult classic is suitable for their children. With its mix of horror, humor, and graphic content, parents need to weigh the film's themes, language, violence, and sexual content against their child's maturity level. Engaging in open discussions about the film's content can provide valuable insights and help children navigate the complexities of what they watch. Ultimately, informed decisions will allow families to enjoy the film while ensuring it aligns with their values and comfort levels.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the age rating for 'Return of the Living Dead'?

The film 'Return of the Living Dead' is rated R for its strong language, horror violence, and sexual content.

Are there any graphic scenes in 'Return of the Living Dead' that parents should be aware of?

Yes, the film contains graphic depictions of violence, including dismemberment and gore, which may be disturbing for younger viewers.

Is 'Return of the Living Dead' suitable for children?

No, due to its R rating and mature themes, 'Return of the Living Dead' is not suitable for children.

What themes are explored in 'Return of the Living Dead'?

The film explores themes of life and death, the consequences of scientific experimentation, and societal reactions to horror.

Does 'Return of the Living Dead' contain any strong language?

Yes, the film features frequent strong language which contributes to its R rating.

Are there any sexual content scenes in 'Return of the Living Dead'?

Yes, the film includes some sexual content and suggestive scenes that may not be appropriate for younger audiences.

What should parents consider before allowing their teens to watch 'Return of the Living Dead'?

Parents should consider the film's graphic violence, strong language, and mature themes before allowing their teens to watch it.

Is there any positive message in 'Return of the Living Dead'?

While primarily a horror-comedy, some viewers interpret the film as a commentary on the consequences of neglecting safety and ethical considerations in science.

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