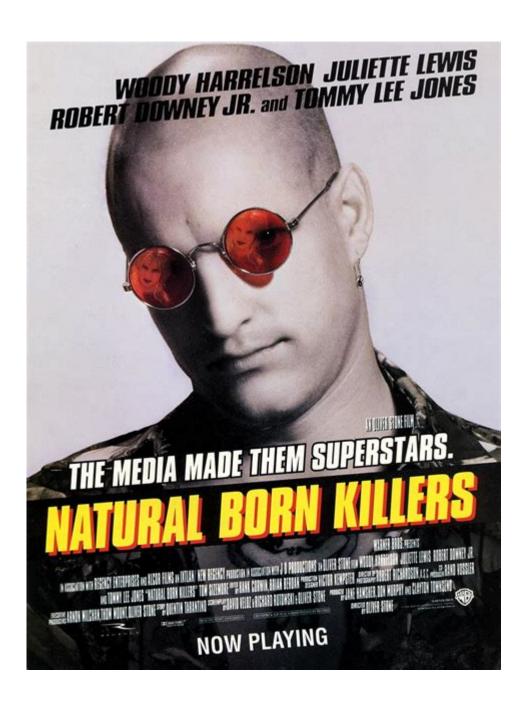
Natural Born Killers Parents Guide



Natural Born Killers Parents Guide: A Comprehensive Look at the Controversial Film

Are you considering watching Oliver Stone's controversial 1994 film, Natural Born Killers? Before you press play, it's crucial to understand the film's content and its suitability for your family. This comprehensive parents' guide delves into the graphic violence, mature themes, and overall tone of Natural Born Killers, offering a detailed analysis to help you make an informed decision. We'll explore the reasons for its notoriety, the potential impact on viewers, and offer guidance on whether this film is appropriate for your children or teens.

Understanding the Controversial Nature of Natural Born Killers

Natural Born Killers is not your typical action movie. It's a stylized, violent portrayal of Mickey and Mallory Knox, a young couple who embark on a murderous rampage across America. The film's graphic depictions of violence and its glorification, or at least its unflinching portrayal, of the killers' actions sparked intense debate upon its release and continues to be a subject of discussion today. Understanding this controversial nature is paramount before deciding if it's suitable for your family.

The Violence Depicted: What to Expect

The film contains extremely graphic and violent scenes. These are not merely suggested; they are depicted in detail, often with stylized visuals and slow-motion shots that amplify the impact. There's blood, gore, and depictions of various forms of violent death. This is not subtle violence; it's intense and visceral. Parents need to consider their children's maturity levels and tolerance for such content.

Mature Themes Explored in the Film

Beyond the graphic violence, Natural Born Killers tackles complex and mature themes. These include:

Media's Influence on Violence: The film explores how media coverage can sensationalize violence, potentially inspiring copycat behavior.

Societal Dysfunction: It critiques the societal factors that may contribute to violence and criminal behavior.

Moral Ambiguity: The film presents a morally ambiguous portrayal of its protagonists, making it challenging to clearly identify heroes and villains.

Relationships and Love: The dysfunctional and violent relationship between Mickey and Mallory is a central theme, highlighting its toxic nature.

The Stylistic Choices and Their Impact

Oliver Stone's directorial style significantly contributes to the film's controversial nature. The use of rapid editing, jarring visuals, and a non-linear narrative creates a chaotic and disorienting experience. This style, while artistically bold, might be overwhelming or disturbing for younger or sensitive viewers.

Age Appropriateness and Parental Guidance Suggestions

Given the graphic violence, mature themes, and stylistic choices, Natural Born Killers is not recommended for children or young teens. The film's content is likely too disturbing and intense for audiences under 18. Even for older teens, parental guidance and discussion are strongly recommended. A pre-screening discussion about the film's content and themes could help prepare them for what they're about to see and facilitate post-viewing conversations about its impact.

Alternative Options for Similar Themes (Without the Graphic Violence)

If you're interested in films exploring similar themes of violence, media influence, or societal dysfunction, but without the graphic violence, consider exploring alternative options. Many films tackle these themes with more mature handling and less graphic content. Researching these alternatives can provide a more suitable viewing experience for your family.

Conclusion

Natural Born Killers is a provocative and controversial film that demands careful consideration before viewing. Its graphic violence, mature themes, and stylistic choices make it unsuitable for younger audiences. Parents need to carefully weigh the film's content against their children's maturity level and emotional resilience before deciding whether to watch it. Open communication and post-viewing discussions are crucial if deciding to view it with older teens.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: Is Natural Born Killers based on a true story?

A1: No, Natural Born Killers is not based on a true story. However, it draws inspiration from real-life events and explores themes related to media influence on violence.

Q2: What is the MPAA rating for Natural Born Killers?

A2: The film received an NC-17 rating from the MPAA, indicating that it is not suitable for viewers under the age of 17.

Q3: Are there any versions of the film with less violence?

A3: No, there are no officially released versions of the film with significantly less violence. The graphic violence is integral to the film's overall message and aesthetic.

Q4: Why is the film so controversial?

A4: The film's extreme violence, its exploration of potentially triggering themes, and its stylized portrayal of the killers sparked intense debate and controversy upon its release and continues to be discussed.

Q5: Should I let my teenager watch Natural Born Killers?

A5: This is a decision only you can make, based on your teenager's maturity level, emotional resilience, and your family's values. A pre-screening discussion and post-viewing conversation are highly recommended if you choose to allow viewing.

natural born killers parents guide: Has Hollywood Lost Its Mind? Chris Hicks, 2013-05-01 The wire-thin line that separates movies rated PG and R has been crossed over so many times in both directions that industry observers are questioning whether the rating system carries any validity at all. As a movie reviewer for more than thirty years and as a watchful, caretaker parent, author Chris Hicks learned pretty quickly that Hollywood movers and shakers like to "push the envelope," as they put it, and it doesn't seem to matter whether it's a children's film or an adult movie. It's not just R-rated movies that are troubling. PG-13s and even PGs can also be problematic. And sometimes worse than problematic. Simply put, relying on the Motion Picture Association of America to make choices for you or your children is a mistake. Breaking down the history of the film rating system and exploring today's ratings confusion and quagmire, Hicks provides valuable information to help parents know how to interpret and what to expect from today's movies.

natural born killers parents quide: The Complete Guide to Understanding, Controlling, and Stopping Bullies & Bullying Margaret R. Kohut, 2007 Forty percent of U.S. students voluntarily report being involved in bullying -- as bullies or as victims -- according to the results of the first national survey on this subject. Bullying is increasingly viewed as an important contributor to youth violence, including homicide and suicide. Case studies of the shooting at Columbine High School and other U.S. schools trace the multiple murders to bullying incidents. School is a prime location for bullying, and its effects can last a lifetime. Bullying is one of the most underrated and enduring problems in schools today and is a reality in the lives of all children, whether they are bullies, victims, or witnesses. In this book, you will learn why bullying occurs and get at the root causes for it, why some children are victimised and why others are vicious, how to develop an anti-bullying policy, how students, parents, and teachers can work together to stop it before it goes too far. You will learn about cyber bullying, racist bullying, sexist bullying, phone or note bullying, gang bullying, teacher bullying, and sports bullying. You will know how to evaluate the bullying problem in your school, develop anger management and conflict resolution skills, develop awareness of the problem, learn victim role playing and assertiveness training, and how to provide better supervision of key areas of the school where bullying often occurs. All children deserve the right to go to school free of intimidation. Help make your school bully-free by using the information contained in this groundbreaking new book. If you are interested in learning essentially everything there is to know about stopping bullies and bullying, then this book is for you.

natural born killers parents guide: The Boys in the Boat (Movie Tie-In) Daniel James Brown, 2023-12-05 The inspiration for the Major Motion Picture Directed by George Clooney—exclusively in theaters December 25, 2023! The #1 New York Times bestselling true story

about the American rowing triumph of the 1936 Olympics in Berlin—from the author of Facing the Mountain For readers of Unbroken, out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant. It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest.

natural born killers parents guide: TLA Video & DVD Guide 2005 David Bleiler, 2014-04-08 The TLA Video and DVD Guide 2005 is the absolutely indispensable guide to worthwhile cinema. It includes over 10,000 entries on the best of film and video that a real film lover might actually want to see. Unlike some of the other mass market guides that tend to be clogged with unenlightening entries on even more unenlightening films, TLA focuses on independent, foreign, and the best of Hollywood to bring the cineaste an opinionated guide that is both fun and useful. The guide includes: -Reviews of more than 10,000 films -Four detailed indexes--by star, directory, country of origin, and theme -More than 300 photos throughout -A listing of all the major film awards of the past quarter-century, as well as TLA Bests and recommended films -A comprehensive selection of cinema from more than 50 countries Now published annually, the TLA Video and DVD Guide is one of the most respected guides from one of the finest names in video retailing, perfect for anyone with an eclectic taste in cinema.

natural born killers parents guide: The Guide to United States Popular Culture Ray Broadus Browne, Pat Browne, 2001 To understand the history and spirit of America, one must know its wars, its laws, and its presidents. To really understand it, however, one must also know its cheeseburgers, its love songs, and its lawn ornaments. The long-awaited Guide to the United States Popular Culture provides a single-volume guide to the landscape of everyday life in the United States. Scholars, students, and researchers will find in it a valuable tool with which to fill in the gaps left by traditional history. All American readers will find in it, one entry at a time, the story of their lives.--Robert Thompson, President, Popular Culture Association. At long last popular culture may indeed be given its due within the humanities with the publication of The Guide to United States Popular Culture. With its nearly 1600 entries, it promises to be the most comprehensive single-volume source of information about popular culture. The range of subjects and diversity of opinions represented will make this an almost indispensable resource for humanities and popular culture scholars and enthusiasts alike.--Timothy E. Scheurer, President, American Culture Association The popular culture of the United States is as free-wheeling and complex as the society it animates. To understand it, one needs assistance. Now that explanatory road map is provided in this Guide which charts the movements and people involved and provides a light at the end of the rainbow of dreams and expectations.--Marshall W. Fishwick, Past President, Popular Culture Association Features of The Guide to United States Popular Culture: 1,010 pages 1,600 entries 500 contributors Alphabetic entries Entries range from general topics (golf, film) to specific individuals, items, and events Articles are supplemented by bibliographies and cross references Comprehensive index

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put enormous pressure on traditional law models. An introduction describing the main actors and salient aspects of media markets is followed by in-depth analyses of print media, radio and television broadcasting, the Internet, commercial communications, political advertising, concentration in media markets, and media regulation. Among the topics that arise for discussion are privacy, cultural policy, protection of minors, competition policy, access to digital gateways, protection of journalists' sources, standardization and interoperability, and liability of intermediaries. Relevant case law is considered throughout, as are various ethical codes. A clear, comprehensive overview of media legislation, case law, and doctrine, presented from the practitioner's point of view, this book is a valuable time-saving resource for all concerned with media and communication freedom. Lawyers representing parties with interests in Ireland will welcome this very useful guide, and academics and researchers will appreciate its value in the study of comparative media law.

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natural born killers parents quide: Movie Freak Owen Gleiberman, 2016-02-23 Entertainment Weekly's controversial critic of more than two decades looks back at a life told through the films he loved and loathed. Owen Gleiberman has spent his life watching movies-first at the drive-in, where his parents took him to see wildly inappropriate adult fare like Rosemary's Baby when he was a wide-eyed 9 year old, then as a possessed cinemaniac who became a film critic right out of college. In Movie Freak, his enthrallingly candid, funny, and eye-opening memoir, Gleiberman captures what it's like to live life through the movies, existing in thrall to a virtual reality that becomes, over time, more real than reality itself. Gleiberman paints a bittersweet portrait of his complicated and ultimately doomed friendship with Pauline Kael, the legendary New Yorker film critic who was his mentor and muse. He also offers an unprecedented inside look at what the experience of being a critic is really all about, detailing his stint at The Boston Phoenix and then, starting in 1990, at EW, where he becomes a voice of obsession battling-to a fault-to cling to his independence. Gleiberman explores the movies that shaped him, from the films that first made him want to be a critic (Nashville and Carrie), to what he hails as the sublime dark trilogy of the 1980s (Blue Velvet, Sid and Nancy, and Manhunter), to the scruffy humanity of Dazed and Confused, to the brilliant madness of Natural Born Killers, to the transcendence of Breaking the Waves, to the pop rapture of Moulin Rouge! He explores his partnership with Lisa Schwarzbaum and his friendships and encounters with such figures as Oliver Stone, Russell Crowe, Richard Linklater, and Ben Affleck. He also writes with confessional intimacy about his romantic relationships and how they echoed the behavior of his bullying, philandering father. And he talks about what film criticism is becoming in the digital age: a cacophony of voices threatened by an insidious new kind of groupthink. Ultimately, Movie Freak is about the primal pleasure of film and the enigmatic dynamic between critic and screen. For Gleiberman, the moving image has a talismanic power, but it also represents a kind of sweet sickness, a magnificent obsession that both consumes and propels him.

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general theories of popular culture, identifies theologians and theological concepts that are conducive to analyzing popular culture, and explores religious themes that are asserting themselves through popular movies, novels, music, television shows and advertising. A timely examination and contribution to the rapidly expanding field of theology and popular culture Locates the theological analysis of culture alongside political, sociological, economic, aesthetic and psychological analyses Surveys the work of religious and theological scholars who have turned their attention to popular culture Considers classic Christian thinkers who have wrestled with culture, such as St. Paul, Tertullian, Augustine, Schleiermacher, Tillich, and Ricoeur Proposes a method for analysing culture to discern its religious content Identifies religious themes in popular culture Uses illustrations, ranging from the fiction of Nick Hornby to Six Feet Under An appendix provides lists of films, novels, television series, consumer products, architectural works, cultural events, and corporate icons that lend themselves to theological analysis.

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to recognise and build on existing artistic abilities and pedagogical skills, how to encourage children's creativity, how to lead arts appreciation experiences, and the general principles of planning and assessment. Part 2 specifically examines the five arts areas: dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts. The final part of the text, Units of Inquiry, contains valuable sample learning activities and resources that demonstrate how to plan an effective lesson within a unit of inquiry.

natural born killers parents guide: Room Emma Donoghue, 2017-05-07 Kidnapped as a teenage girl, Ma has been locked inside a purpose built room in her captor's garden for seven years. Her five year old son, Jack, has no concept of the world outside and happily exists inside Room with the help of Ma's games and his vivid imagination where objects like Rug, Lamp and TV are his only friends. But for Ma the time has come to escape and face their biggest challenge to date: the world outside Room.

natural born killers parents guide: Filmology Chris Barsanti, 2010-11-18 Sure, everybody loves the movies. But how much do these movie enthusiasts really know about them? In this groundbreaking book, noted film critic Chris Barsanti gives you the most entertaining crash course in good film in a book--one movie a day. This is not just another greatest-movies celebration. Pairing cinema's lesser-seen gems alongside blockbusters, great early works from the pioneers of film alongside often-overlooked films from great directors, Barsanti unveils the movies that all true cineastes must see--for everyone's viewing pleasure. Filmology: So you can watch your way to an education in film!

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represents race, gender, violence, and terrorism are also discussed.

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natural born killers parents guide: <u>SPIN</u>, 1995-07 From the concert stage to the dressing room, from the recording studio to the digital realm, SPIN surveys the modern musical landscape and the culture around it with authoritative reporting, provocative interviews, and a discerning critical ear. With dynamic photography, bold graphic design, and informed irreverence, the pages of SPIN pulsate with the energy of today's most innovative sounds. Whether covering what's new or what's next, SPIN is your monthly VIP pass to all that rocks.

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natural born killers parents guide: Seen That, Now What? Andrea Shaw, 1996-04-09 You've never used a video guide like this before. You loved Chariots of Fire and you want to see something like it. Where do you start? Look up Chariots of Fire in the index, and find it in Drama. There you'll see it listed under White Flannel Films: Welcome to the glory days of the British empire when the ruling class rode horses on large country estates, servants were in plentiful supply, and only an adulterous lover questioned the status quo. As in other costume dramas, the period details are celebrations of all that was brilliant and luxurious, with the camera sweeping over British, Indian, or African countryscapes and exquisite turn-of-the-century interiors. But all this lush upholstery doesn't cover up the intelligent, thoughtful stories -- usually based on Lawrence, Forster, and Waugh novels -- played by stellar British actors. In White Flannel Films there are concise, witty reviews of select movies like A Room with a View A Passage to India Heat and Dust The Shooting Party Out of Africa White Mischief and more There is also a unique ratings system that helps you distinguish the bombs from the sleepers. But the key is that all these films offer the same kind of viewing experience -- if you like one, chances are good you'll like the others, too. Seen That, Now What? is your own personal video genius, who knows everything about movies and exactly what you like to watch.

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grants to representation and production companies. Along with provocative articles and valuable advice from top creators in the industry, this is the only practical guide that provides the most comprehensive information for all screenwriters. --Book Jacket.

natural born killers parents guide: Desperately Seeking Ethics Howard Good, 2004-09-08 Trends prevailing in the media suggest a seemingly disintegrating concept of media ethics. It is no surprise; being ethical is hard work and, could very well put a person in conflict with prevailing trends. Many of the people cited within the 13 essays of Desperately Seeking Ethics illustrate this_from Socrates and Martin Luther King Jr., who both died for their principles, to reporter David Kidwell of the Miami Herald who chose jail over testifying for the prosecution in a murder trial. This is not just another media ethics book. Engaging and non-conventional it breaks away from the usual text practice of presenting the ethical theories of well-known philosophers in watered-down form. Instead, the contributors, all of whom teach media ethics, select a poem, movie, song, speech, or other cultural document, analyze it for implied or explicit ethical lessons, and then apply the lessons of that work to a specific case that involved controversial media conduct. In addition to endnotes, each chapter contains questions for discussion and a list of further readings. Where possible, the contributors have included all or part of the poems, speeches, and other documents they analyze as sources of ethical instruction and inspiration.

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Shaffer identify the complex issues these parents are facing and offer wise and effective strategies for successfully parenting a twenty-something kid.

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natural born killers parents guide: DVD & Video Guide 2005 Mick Martin, Marsha Porter, 2004 Wondering what video to rent tonight? This bestselling, fact-packed guide is the only sourcebook you and your family will ever need. Mick Martin and Marsha Porter steer you toward the winners and warn you about the losers. DVD & Video Guide 2004 covers it all-more films than any other guide, plus your favorite serials, B-Westerns, made-for-TV movies, and old television programs! Each entry, conveniently alphabetized for easy access, includes a summary, fresh commentary, the director, major cast members, the year of release, and the MPAA rating, plus a reliable Martin and Porter rating-from Five Stars to Turkey-so you'll never get caught with a clunker

again!

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