

WRITTEN REASONS FOR DECISION SECTION 12

TITLE OF PUBLICATION: Team America World Police

OFLC REF:401748

HEADNOTE

Type of Publication:	Film 35mm
Title of Publication:	Team America World Police
Other known title:	Not Stated
OFLC Publication Reference No:	401748
Decision:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.
Display Conditions:	Nil.
Descriptive Note:	Contains violence, offensive language and sex scenes.

The publication entitled *Team America World Police* is classified as objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years. This classification is due to the manner in which the publication deals with matters of sex and violence.

Team America World Police is an American comedy film made by the creators of the television series (and film) *South Park*. The feature's cast is entirely made up of marionettes, and the film is composed in such a way as to often send up the obvious lack of realism lent by the non-human cast. In some close-up shots of the characters' faces for example, despite dramatic music, no emotion is portrayed. The film gleefully makes fun of the current political climate, including many digs at gung-ho American attitudes to other countries, and Hollywood actors' often misguided political stances.

The plot centres on an actor named Gary, who is recruited to join the Team America World Police to help fight terrorism by dressing up as a Middle Eastern terrorist. A series of ridiculous showdowns, in which the Team save the world while showing little regard for anyone who is not American, are punctuated by dialogue which is clichéd and nonsensical.

Much of the film's humour is deliberately tasteless, with scenes including a protracted vomiting sequence, and there is a lot of offensive language throughout. Bombastic comic rock songs make up the sound track.

The publication deals with matters of sex in the form of high level references and sex scenes. A lot of the verbal humour revolves around the shockingly frank dialogue. For example, one of the team members assails Gary with highly detailed threats including "I'll drill two holes in your dick so that when you pee it comes out in two different directions". In the final act of the film, Gary delivers a speech using a metaphor in which all people can be classified as either "pussies", "dicks" or "assholes". The metaphor uses sexual terminology to relate political attitudes to others, encompassing sexual acts including anal sex. The Team America theme song, which is played several times, contains lyrics including "America – fuck yeah, so lick my butt and suck my balls", sung in a pompous fashion.

Most of the references do not relate to depicted activity. However, an ongoing joke relates to Gary's belief early in the plot that the man who recruited him wished Gary to perform fellatio upon him. Late in the film the man tells Gary that he will only trust him again if he performs the act. Gary's head disappears from view for a few seconds before their conversation resumes.

Gary and another member of Team America, Lisa, are depicted having sex at one point. This humorous scene is presented at first in a similar way to romantic sex scenes in mainstream Hollywood films. During the scene the puppet characters are placed in a variety of sexual positions that mirror those in adult sex films, and clumsily manipulated to approximate sexual activity.

The publication deals with matters of violence. There are numerous depictions of violence to the puppet characters, including stabbings and shootings. These depictions are discussed below in terms of s3(3)(a)(i).

There are no matters within the publication that require discussion under s3(2) of the FVPC Act.

Section 3(3)(a)(i) of the FVPC Act relate to the extent and degree to which, and the manner in which, the publication describes, depicts or otherwise deals with the infliction of serious physical harm. The manner in which the publication deals with the infliction of serious physical harm is in line with the style of the film, as violence is always presented unrealistically, sometimes humorously and often pointedly. For example, in the opening scene, Team America battle terrorists in a comic book-style Paris, gunning down many terrorists. However, the scene is presented in the manner of a typical action film, as it is only when a member of the team is shot that the camera focuses on the victim for any period. Wounds are indicated by splashes of red paint in these scenes.

The most violent scenes occur towards the end of the film, and the most sadistic deaths are reserved for the North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il and various Hollywood actors. The actors' deaths are more gruesome, because when their bodies are penetrated a fleshy red substance is exposed. When the Helen Hunt puppet is cut in half, for example, there is a close up of the severed lower half.

The dominant effect of the publication as a whole is of an irreverent and over-the-top parody of American cultural and political conventions. The cast of puppets allows the filmmakers to push the limits of what can be depicted onscreen, in a manner reminiscent of the use of animation in *South Park*. A restriction on the publication's availability is due to its treatment of matters of sex and violence. Adults are considered likely to be able to put the sexual and violent elements of the publication into context, because of experience and maturity that younger teenagers and children are unlikely to possess. Therefore the publication is restricted to an audience aged 16 years of age and over.

Written reasons are not legally required for section 12 submissions, but it is the policy of the Classification Office to provide them.

Copyright Office of Film and Literature Classification. This document may not be reproduced in whole or in part by any means in any form without written permission except for brief quotations embodied in articles, reports or reviews.

Date	26/10/04	OFFIC Ref	401748
Applicant	Film & Video Labelling Body Inc.		
Applicant to Labelling Body	United International Pictures		
Title (On Screen)	Team America World Police		
Other Known Title	Not Stated		
Director/s	Trey Parker		
Producer/s	Scott Rudin, Pam Brady, Trey Parker, Matt Stone		
System Format	Film 35mm	Country of Origin	USA
Language/s	English		

Classification	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.		
Descriptive Note	Contains violence, offensive language and sex scenes.		
Excision/s	N/A	Date Cleared	N/A
Total Running Time	98.44	Total Running Time after Excisions	N/A

0.08 Paramount

0.29 earth, fr. space

0.48 explosion

0.56 Paris, France

mariónette in front of painted bckdrop
pull back to reveal detailed puppet world.

1.59 evil - 1'kg Moslem o's "jerka jerka j'had" etc.
beeping suitcase.

2.36 Team America captor "you in the robe,
put down the weapon of mass destruct'n"
o's → shooting. Blood on chest.

- 3.40 "Terrorise this!" = blond ♀ shoots malem ♂?
- 4.09 hand to hand combat - looks like dancing.
Eiffel Tower falls over "Damn, I missed him".
- 5.03 T.A blows up Louvre. Cheering as leave Paris burning.
- 5.58 ♂ (Carson) asks Lisa to marry him then Malem emerges fr. fountain & shoots him - Cliché, ridiculous.
- 6.47 Carson dies, Cam. pans out as Lisa screams.
- 7.21 parody of musical "Rent" "everyone has AIDS".
- 9.29 Spottswood talks to actor Gary Johnston backstage.
- 10.25 "oh I get it... you put your finger inside me then I go down on you"
"I'm not going to fuck yr mouth"
- 11.13 Gary + Spottswood in car. S. tells G. that terrorists want to kill him + ev. l else.
- 12.13 car bec's plane. S. wants G. to pretend to be a terrorist.
- 13.15 plane enters mouth on Mt Rushmore.
- 14.05 G. introd's to T.A in Team Base.
"a fucking actor"
- 16.18 R.C.
- 16.18 G. tries to leave. Lisa persuades him to "help people", gives him her card.

18.01 G. @ war memorials etc. Oll Country song
"Freedom isn't free" etc.

19.01 North Korea, Asia
(also dist. fr. America)
Kim Jong-I shoots translator, talk to
Chechen ♂.

21.38 operation to make G. l'k middle-eastern.
blood on instruments.

22.59 G. = to be taken to tavern in Cairo
where terrorists = mtg.

23.38 blustering ^{'80s style} rock song "America fuck yeah
so lift my ~~cock~~ ^{butt} + suck my balls
as copters take off

24.51 Cairo, Middle East
copters land on market stalls "we protect
we serve we care" written on side

25.59 ♂ talks abt ripping G.'s balls out
+ stuffing them up and so next time
you shit it'll be all over yr balls.

27.55 G. "acts" his way past guards into tavern.

30.29 G. tells Chechen leader abt his tragic
"past" "I swear I could hear my
goats screaming for help".

31.55 terrorists escape in jeep. T.A follow in hummer.
Blow up pyramid. + recognise G.

33.42 Sarah shoots everyone in tavern l'k
f. G. blood splatter as shoot ♂ thru
head.

35.07 jeep, terrorists + sphinx blow up after
Lisa saves G.

35.33 R.C

- 35.53 Alec Baldwin, Tim Robbins sp'k out ag. Team America.
- 37.12 Hans Blix visits Kim Jong-Il, who releases him into aquarium, attacked by shark.
- 39.12 T.A + G. party. "I'll drill 2 holes in yr dick so that when you pee it comes out in 2 diff. directions".
- 41.12 G. tells Lisa ~~er~~ how his bro. was killed by gorillas
- 43.02 Lisa + G. kiss. Puppets hve sex in var. pos't'n, fell. Lisa stands on head etc. Effect diminished by fact they = puppets.
- 44.28 Panama Canal → explosions, water sweeps pple away. Drowned bodies.
- 46.54 terrorists were fr. Durkadurkistan. Public ag. T.A.
- 49.52 G. ≠ want to act anymore, thinks he caused everything. Sarah angry @ Lisa ∴ she slept w. G.
- 50.30 R.C.
- 51.47 T.A aircraft surr.d.d → dogfight.
- 53.06 shooting down planes as T.A discuss love lives.
- 53.46 Michael Moore blows self up in Team Base. Spottswode - "Jesus titty fucking".
- 54.54 wreckage in water. Kim Jong-Il watches on screen.
- 55.51 Kim Jong-Il sings ballad. all 'I's as 'r's e.g. "I'm so lonely" etc.
- 57.48 G. drinking in bar. "Freedom isn't free" song plays.

58.50 ♂ tells G. ab't how 3 kinds of pple
→ dicks, pussies + assholes. Dicks want to
fuck everything, assholes shit all over everyth.

59.59 G. vomits copiously on street Protracted
Falls in large pool of vomit.

1.01.12 Alec Baldwin addr's Film Actors Guild (F.A.G.)
want to use their power to change
the world.

1.02.41 Baldwin ann's new partner Kim Jong-Il.

1.03.03 Kim Jong-Il has T.A. prisoner. ♂
being electrocuted.

1.05.57 montage G. riding arched, thinking ab't Lisa.
Ballad ab't how bad "Pearl Harbour" film was

1.06.57 R.C.

1.08.09 S. tells G. he will blow up Korea to
destroy WMD triggers.

1.09.37 S. tells G. he'll only trust him if he
perf's oral sex on him.

1.10.59 G. i. head disappears fr. sight (implied)
he perf's fell on S.)

1.11.41 montage training seq. ce. Song "we're
gonna need a montage"

1.13.13 Kim Jong-Il's peace spectacular.

1.15.42 G. shoots down guards.

1.17.04 "he proved it last night by sucking my
cock."

1.18.28 actors shoot @ T.A.

1.20.07 actors die gruesome deaths.

1:20:50 ♂ on how he w. raped by Mr Nestophizler
fr. 'Cats' which is why he ≠ trust actor.

1:21:57 ~~Cats~~ cats eat Danny Glover + Jean Penn.

1:23:59 Fight scene.

1:24:46 Helen Hunt cut in $\frac{1}{2}$. Tim Robbins burnt
alive.

1:26:37 encouraging G. to convince aud. ce Kim
Jong-Il is evil vs Alec Baldwin.

1:27:43 G. expl.s T.A = dicks, F.A.G = pussies +
Kim Jong-Il = an asshole. "pussies are
only an inch + a half away from ass-
holes". Extends metaphor to unbelievable
length.

1:29:27 Kim Jong-Il shoots Baldwin then when
Lisa pushes him he falls + = skewered
on a pronged hat.

1:30:53 Lisa + G. kiss. G. - "he's a man that
knows that when you put another man's
cock in yr mouth" etc.

1:31:42 beetle crawls fr. K.J.I.'s mouth +
esc. in spaceship. T.A - "fuck yeah"
(will be ready f. K.J.I.'s return)

1:32:34 cred.s set to medley of songs fr. feature.

1:38:44 ends (98.44)