WRITTEN REASONS FOR DECISION SECTION 12

HEADNOTE

Type of Publication:

DVD

Title of Publication:

The Texas Chain Saw Massacre Disc 2

Other known title:

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (2 Disc Collectors Edition) Disc

2

OFLC Publication

Reference No:

702509

Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.

restricted to persons who have attained

Display Conditions:

Nil.

Descriptive Note:

Contains horror scenes. Contains violence.

The publication entitled *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre Disc 2* is classified objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years. This classification is because of the manner in which the publication deals with matters of horror, cruelty and violence.

The publication is the second DVD in a two DVD box set, and contains extra material relating to the 1974 American horror feature *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*. The material includes two documentaries, a sequence in which one of the actors walks through the house used in the film and collections of outtakes and deleted scenes. The documentaries provide a lot of information about all aspects of the film, including

- its making
- the later careers of many of the people involved
- what happened to the house in the film
- tributes to people involved who have since died
- the film's treatment at horror conventions and fairs
- the inspiration for the film's plot
- the myriad of sequels.

The DVD contains a lot of excerpts from the film, throughout the documentaries and in the outtakes. Eerie sound effects play during many of the components, including the Menu screens.

In terms of s3(1) of the FVPC Act the publication contains many shots of horror, violence and cruelty from the film. The strongest or most typical examples of violence are discussed below under s3(3)(a)(i). Some of the effect of the sequences is lessened by their lack of context, and by

the discussions around how they were created. However, the sheer number of horrifying images of screaming women, people being attacked and terrorised and Leatherface wielding his chainsaw threateningly mean that the publication still has a fair degree of impact. The outtakes and deleted scenes, in particular, contain a lot of horrific and violent images. These include close-up shots of decaying bodies and a sequence that is repeated several times of a man being hit over the head causing his bloody body to convulse before he is dragged away.

The information about Ed Gein, the serial killer, is particularly strong. In one of the documentaries the voiceover outlines Gein's crimes, which included grave-robbing, eating corpses and turning the bodies into costumes and furniture. A black and white photograph shows a body hanging upside-down with blood visible at the crotch and the head out of frame. The voice-over talks about how the corpse was found "gutted like a deer".

The crimes referred to within the film's plotline, and Ed Gein's crimes are clearly presented as being indefensible and wrong.

The publication does not contain any matters that require discussion under s3(2) of the FVPC Act.

Section 3(3)(a)(i) of the FVPC Act relates 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. Much of the violence that takes place in the feature is seen several times during the material. Possibly the strongest sequence is seen at least twice, and involves a man being hit over the head with a mallet and his bloody body convulsing. Although these violent sequences are sometimes accompanied by information about how the effect was created they still have a disturbing feel.

The dominant effect of the publication as a whole is of a collection of extremely detailed information about a classic 1970s American horror film. The publication itself has little merit except in that it showcases material about and from a groundbreaking classic film. The publication's level of detail means that it is likely to appeal mainly to people who are already fans of the film. The unrestricted availability of the publication is likely to be injurious to the public good due to the high extent of its treatment of matters of violence and horror. The images and treatment of horror, cruelty and violence would be extremely disturbing to younger teenagers and children. Adults and older teenager are more likely to have a sophisticated knowledge of the horror genre, and therefore able to put the material's themes and atmosphere into a context. Therefore the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.

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

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4.45	political, historical context.	
5.11	b + w shots fr. horror films	3 3 3 3 3 4 3 4 4
6.36	Last Hausa Ca Ti . O	
	last Howe On The Left -images, the elimination of supernatural fr. the horror film.	
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1.05.33	Pature stars in movie	<u> </u>
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	Outtakes from "The Shocking Truth"	
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2.13	conts "spiked brownies" 1 day on shoot.	
4.19	conts.	
6 · 30	Cont-s .	
7.40		
9	Deleted Scenes And Alternate Footage	
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8	paied corpuer in graveyard.	
	lead dog in grass, van et	
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<u> </u>	Her Catholic Control of the Control	
6	no bund, shot of piple, trees	
<i>V</i> 11 8	scene in which Kirk = Killed by LF. Blandy, sparning body.	
10.20	de F charing Sally outside.	

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11 - 21	I sound - Sally screams, whimpers, or talks to her	2400 CM
13.06	Conts. She struggles the hugs her	
14.00	pouder.	
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	Extack, skull + animal heads on wall Descricated body	
	m. shots of banes set etc.	
23 - 33	conts.	
28.22		
6	Blooper Reel mil allower and a series	
0-28	char. talks to someone officer, oner. falls	
	out of wheelchoir etc.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
2.15	Cants.	
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(7)	Killing Kirk Outtakes	
0-03	no sound. LA hits Kirk, pull him in shuts	
9	stov (.	
0-27	body in spasm.	
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