

predator 1987 parents guide

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The film *Predator*, released in 1987, is a classic science fiction action movie that has left a significant mark on pop culture. Directed by John McTiernan and featuring Arnold Schwarzenegger, the film has become a staple for fans of the genre. However, while it boasts thrilling action sequences and a gripping storyline, it is essential for parents to understand its content and themes before allowing their children to watch it. This article provides a comprehensive parents guide to *Predator* 1987, detailing its themes, violence, language, and other elements that may impact a viewer's suitability for younger audiences.

Overview of Predator 1987

Predator follows a group of elite military commandos who are sent on a rescue mission in the Central American jungle. As they navigate through the dense foliage, they soon realize they are being hunted by an extraterrestrial creature with advanced technology and an insatiable thirst for sport. The film combines elements of action, horror, and science fiction, creating a unique viewing experience that has resonated with audiences for decades.

Content Summary

To assist parents in determining the appropriateness of *Predator* for their children, here's a breakdown of its content:

Thematic Elements

1. **Survival and Warfare:** The film explores themes of survival in hostile environments and the realities of warfare. It portrays the struggles of a group of highly trained soldiers facing an unknown and powerful enemy.
2. **Friendship and Loyalty:** The bond between the characters is tested as they confront the alien threat. Themes of camaraderie and loyalty are prevalent throughout the film.
3. **Fear of the Unknown:** The film builds tension through the characters' fears and uncertainties, emphasizing the terror of facing an unseen enemy.

Violence and Gore

Predator is known for its intense action sequences and graphic violence, which includes:

- **Combat Scenes:** The film features numerous gunfights, explosions, and hand-to-hand combat. The soldiers use various weapons, including rifles, grenades, and knives.
- **Gore:** There are several scenes depicting blood and gore, including the aftermath of violent encounters with the Predator. Characters are shown being impaled, dismembered, or otherwise harmed in graphic ways.
- **Death:** The film includes multiple character deaths, some of which are particularly brutal and shocking.

Language

The dialogue in Predator contains strong language, including:

- **Profanity:** The film features several instances of strong language, including the f-word, s-word, and other vulgarities.
- **Slurs:** Some characters use derogatory terms that may be offensive to certain audiences.

Sexual Content

While Predator does not contain explicit sexual scenes, there are elements that may warrant caution:

- **Mild Sexual References:** There are a few jokes and comments that may be considered suggestive or inappropriate for younger viewers.
- **Objectification:** The film features a female character who is primarily portrayed in relation to the male characters, which might be considered outdated by modern standards.

Parental Ratings and Reactions

Predator has received various ratings from different organizations, reflecting its mature content.

MPAA Rating

- **Rated R:** The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) rated Predator R for strong violence and language. This rating serves as a warning to parents about the film's content and is a crucial factor in deciding whether it is appropriate for younger viewers.

Viewer Reactions

Parents and guardians should consider the following when discussing the film with potential viewers:

- Age Recommendations: The film is generally not recommended for children under 17 due to its graphic violence and strong language.
- Audience Reception: While many adults appreciate the film for its action and suspense, younger audiences may not fully grasp the themes or may be disturbed by its graphic nature.

Potential Discussion Topics

If parents choose to watch Predator with their older children or teenagers, it can serve as an opportunity for discussion. Here are some potential topics:

1. The Ethics of War: Discuss the portrayal of warfare and the moral implications of the characters' actions.
2. Fear and Courage: Explore how different characters respond to fear and how they demonstrate courage in the face of danger.
3. Friendship and Sacrifice: Talk about the relationships between characters and what it means to sacrifice for friends.
4. Portrayal of Women in Action Films: Consider how female characters are depicted in the film and compare them to modern representations in the genre.

Conclusion

As a classic film, Predator offers a mix of action and science fiction that has captivated audiences since its release. However, it is essential for parents to be informed about its content before allowing their children to view it. With strong violence, graphic scenes, and mature language, Predator 1987 is best suited for older teens and adults. Parents should weigh the film's themes and content against their children's maturity level and personal values. By doing so, they can make an informed decision about whether this iconic film is appropriate for their family viewing.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the age rating of 'Predator' (1987)?

The film 'Predator' (1987) is rated R for strong violence and language.

What are some major themes in 'Predator' (1987) that parents should be aware of?

Major themes include survival, militarism, and the struggle against an unseen enemy, which may involve graphic violence and intense action sequences.

Are there any sexual content or nudity in 'Predator' (1987)?

Yes, there are brief instances of nudity and sexual references, particularly in the context of the characters' interactions.

How much violence is depicted in 'Predator' (1987)?

The film contains significant violence, including intense battle scenes, deaths, and graphic effects of injuries.

Is there strong language in 'Predator' (1987)?

Yes, the film contains strong language, including profanity and slurs, which may not be suitable for younger audiences.

What is the overall message of 'Predator' (1987)?

The film explores the concept of man versus nature, highlighting themes of honor, bravery, and the consequences of violence.

Would 'Predator' (1987) be appropriate for children under 16?

Due to its R rating, strong violence, language, and mature themes, 'Predator' (1987) is generally not considered appropriate for children under 16.

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