

TITLE: FOOTLOOSE

DATE: 20 2 84

FILM

VIDEO

DISTRIBUTOR: UIP

FIRST

RESUB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: USA

CATEGORY: '15'

CUTS

NO CUTS

GENRE: Teenage

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

SUB-TITLED

DUBBED

FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

APPROPRIATE CATEGORY	U	PG	15	18	R18	CUTS	REJECT
THEME							
TREATMENT							
VISUALS: NUDITY							
SEX							
VIOLENCE							
HORROR							
LANGUAGE							
DRUGS							
CRIMINAL TECHNIQUES							
LEGALITY: OBSCENITY							
CHILDREN							
ANIMALS							
BLASPHEMY							
FILM AS A WHOLE							

Kicks in fight-
Heroine knocked down+hit several times.

SYNOPSIS AND COMMENTS:

Herbert Ross-directed movie which 'explores' American, small-town Bible Belt morality coming up against youth, rock and roll and, dare I say it, a plea for humanity. It's a familiar format in some ways. The new kid in town is Ren, come with his mother from Chicago and unable to understand the ways of the town which has banned rock and roll and, it therefore seems to him, youth itself. Ren really wants to be liked and makes a few friends, but Chuck, a macho lad, needs to prove himself and challenges Ren to a 'chicken run'. Also out to prove herself is Ariel, the preacher's daughter. In the classic tradition of preacher's daughters, Ariel is more daring than her friends and has lost her virginity to Chuck. Ren determines to have a dance, a senior prom for him is a way of making things better both for himself and for the town, of reasserting the confidence he lost when his father left home. He also indicates to Ariel that her family might be better off to allow their grief for her brother, killed in a teenage jape some five years before, to manifest itself openly, rather than sticking to the rigid repression of the kind of circumstances which allowed it to take place.

over...

In the end, the Reverend Moore agrees to the dance, partly persuaded by Ren's good arguments, partly by his wife's good sense, and partly by some honest talking with his daughter. Then everyone is happy.

We couldn't really offer the company the PG they requested on three grounds. Firstly, there was a certain amount of slapping around of the heroine by her jealous boyfriend and a fight at the end when Ren and his friend beat up Chuck and his pals. At one point, Ren is framed by an unfriendly kid at school and caught with a joint in his hand by a teacher. There is also some discussion of Ariel's morals, and she tells her father that she is no longer a virgin. Enough perhaps here for a sleek, but ultimately disappointing, teen film which casts its hero almost in the role of Messiah come to put his elders right. And, of course, he gets the most desirable woman too. Ariel's antics gave me some cause for concern, for in her efforts to prove herself to her peers (right near the beginning of the film), she does a ^{hair} raising trick. She pulls herself out of the car in which she is travelling and straddles the space between that one and a truck travelling parallel. If either had moved, it would have been the ultimate in doing the splits. Absolutely not PG and I was mildly concerned for 15, but felt it was so outrageous a gag that only someone very foolhardy would try to emulate it. Still....

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APPROPRIATE CATEGORY	U	PG	15	18	R18	CUTS	REJECT
THEME	✓						
TREATMENT			✓				
VISUALS: NUDITY							
SEX		✓					
VIOLENCE			Fist fight & thumping of girl on face by man.				
HORROR			Girl astraddle 2 cars going along road.				
LANGUAGE		'Sh*ts.'	Sexual innuendo				
DRUGS			Pot smoking x2				
CRIMINAL TECHNIQUES							
LEGALITY: OBSCENITY							
CHILDREN							
ANIMALS							
BLASPHEMY							
FILM AS A WHOLE			✓				

SYNOPSIS AND COMMENTS:

Yet another movie on the glories of US High school life - directed by Herbert Ross. Ariel is the reckless daughter of preacher Shaw Moore who got the town council to ban dancing and rock and roll after his son was killed after a dance five years ago. She chucks current boy-friend Chuck after Ren joins her school from Chicago and tries to drag the town and its children into the twentieth century. He succeeds and Ariel and he fall in love.

We are taken into I5 by two scenes of pot-smoking and an attempt to push pot among high-school kids. Although the heroine is clearly not innocent sexually and actually tells her Dad she is not a virgin, visual sexual material did not exceed PG, but a verbal description of love-making was probably I5. There was also some abusive talk with sexual references among the boys. What was also clearly I5 was a strong fist fight between a group of boys with CU punching of tummy, groin and chin and some blows to a girl's face delivered during an argument about sex. Quite properly a I5 in that the theme was about adolescents sorting out relationships between themselves and their parents.

EXCEPTIONS

28.3.84
FOOTLOOSE

UIP

proposed category: 'PG'

- Reel 1: Remove shot of boy making masturbation movement after exchange of dialogue 'What do you do?' 'A lot of this'.
- Reel 2: Remove sequence in classroom and outside when RICK tries to get REN to accept a reefer ('sh*t').
- Reel 3: In sequence where ARIEL's boyfriend abuses her and then hits her, remove dialogue: 'You're dying to screw him - wrap those skinny legs around him' and considerably reduce the beating up.
- Reel 5: Remove ARIEL's dialogue 'I'm not a virgin' said to her father in the church.
- Reel 6: Considerably reduce the fight outside the dance hall, removing impact kicks and punches.

Further cuts may be required.

Please resubmit.