

death note 2017 parents guide

Death Note 2017 Parents Guide

The 2017 film adaptation of the popular Japanese manga and anime series "Death Note" has generated significant discussion among parents and guardians regarding its suitability for younger audiences. With its dark themes, complex moral dilemmas, and graphic content, it's essential to provide a comprehensive guide that addresses potential concerns for parents considering whether to allow their children to watch this film. This article will delve into various aspects of the movie, including themes, content warnings, character analysis, and parental perspectives.

Overview of Death Note 2017

"Death Note" is a supernatural thriller that follows the story of Light Turner, a high school student who discovers a mysterious notebook that grants him the power to kill anyone whose name he writes in it, as long as he knows their face. As Light begins to wield this power, he is drawn into a moral battle against law enforcement and a brilliant detective known as L. The film's premise is rooted in themes of justice, morality, and the consequences of playing god.

Content Warnings

Parents should be aware of several content warnings that may influence their decision to allow their children to watch "Death Note." Below are the primary concerns:

Violence and Gore

- The film includes several violent scenes, such as:
- Characters being killed in various ways, often depicted graphically.
- Blood and gore are present, especially during death sequences.
- Scenes that may be intense or disturbing for younger viewers.

Language

- The dialogue in "Death Note" contains strong language, including:
- Frequent use of profanity.
- Slurs and derogatory terms that may not be suitable for younger audiences.

Sexual Content

- There are instances of sexual innuendo and suggestive themes:
- Brief scenes that imply sexual relationships.
- Characters engaging in flirtatious or suggestive behavior.

Psychological Themes

- The film explores dark psychological themes, including:
- The moral dilemmas surrounding justice and vigilantism.
- The impact of power on human behavior, including corruption and insanity.
- Themes of obsession and the consequences of one's choices.

Character Analysis

Understanding the characters in "Death Note" can provide insight into the movie's themes and moral quandaries.

Light Turner

- Light is a complex character driven by a desire for justice but ultimately becomes a villain:
- His descent into darkness raises questions about morality and the abuse of power.
- Light's choices lead to significant consequences for himself and those around him.

L

- L represents the opposite end of the moral spectrum:
- He is a detective who stands for justice and seeks to stop Light's killing spree.
- His character challenges viewers to contemplate the nature of justice and whether ends justify means.

Other Key Characters

- Mia Sutton: Light's girlfriend, who becomes involved in his plans and encourages his more ruthless behavior.
- Watari: L's assistant, who plays a critical role in the investigation against Light.
- The Shinigami Ryuk: A supernatural being who drops the Death Note into the human realm; he adds a layer of dark humor but also represents the consequences of using the Death Note.

Moral and Ethical Implications

One of the central themes of "Death Note" is the exploration of morality, justice, and the consequences of one's choices. Parents may want to discuss these themes with their children if they choose to watch the film.

Justice vs. Vengeance

- The film raises questions about what constitutes true justice:
- Is Light's quest for justice justified, or does it make him a murderer?
- The line between good and evil becomes blurred, prompting discussions on morality.

The Consequences of Power

- "Death Note" highlights the corrupting influence of power:
- Light's initial intentions may seem noble, but as he gains power, he begins to lose his humanity.
- This serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of absolute power.

Impact on Young Viewers

- The film's themes may resonate differently with younger viewers:
- Children and teens may struggle to understand the moral complexities presented.
- Discussions about the film can foster critical thinking and ethical reasoning.

Parental Perspectives and Recommendations

When considering whether to allow children to watch "Death Note," parents should evaluate individual maturity levels and the ability to comprehend complex themes.

Age Recommendations

- The film is rated R for violence and language, making it unsuitable for younger audiences.
- Parents are advised to consider the following when determining suitability:
 - Age and maturity of the child.
 - Previous exposure to dark themes and violent content.
 - Ability to discuss and process the moral questions raised by the film.

Discussion Points for Parents

If parents decide to allow their children to watch "Death Note," they may want to engage in discussions afterward to help them process the film's themes:

1. Discuss the concept of justice:
 - What does justice mean, and how can it be achieved without violence?
2. Explore the implications of power:
 - How does power change people? Can it corrupt even those with good intentions?
3. Examine the portrayal of morality:
 - Are Light's actions justified? What would you have done in his situation?
4. Address the consequences of actions:

- What are the long-term effects of Light's choices on himself and others?

Conclusion

In summary, "Death Note" (2017) presents a complex narrative that intertwines themes of justice, morality, and the consequences of power. While it may appeal to older teens and adults, its graphic content and psychological themes warrant caution for younger viewers. Parents should carefully consider their child's maturity level and engage in discussions about the film's themes if they choose to watch it together. By doing so, they can help foster critical thinking and a deeper understanding of the moral dilemmas posed by the film.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the age rating for the 2017 adaptation of Death Note?

The 2017 adaptation of Death Note is rated TV-MA, indicating it is intended for mature audiences due to its graphic content and themes.

Does the 2017 Death Note movie contain violence?

Yes, the film includes several violent scenes, including murders and graphic imagery, which may not be suitable for younger viewers.

Are there any strong language or profanity issues in Death Note 2017?

Yes, the movie contains strong language and profanity, which is one of the reasons it has a mature rating.

What themes should parents be aware of in Death Note 2017?

Parents should be aware that the film explores dark themes such as morality, justice, and the consequences of power, which may be intense for younger audiences.

Is there any sexual content in the 2017 Death Note film?

The film includes some suggestive scenes and mild sexual content, which may not be appropriate for younger viewers.

What should parents consider before allowing their children to watch Death Note 2017?

Parents should consider the film's mature themes, graphic violence, strong language, and overall dark tone before deciding if it's appropriate for their children.

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