



File No: T16/0192

Australian Government
Classification Board

Decision Report

Classification decisions are made in accordance with the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code and the Classification Guidelines.

Production Details:

Title: DEADPOOL
Alternate titles:
Producer/s: SIMON KINBERG / RYAN REYNOLDS / LAUREN SHULER DONNER
Director/s: TIM MILLER
Year of Production: 2016
Duration: 108 MINUTES
Version: ORIGINAL
Format: DCP
Country/ies of origin: USA
Language/s: ENGLISH
Application type: FPE2
Applicant: TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM DIST. PTY LTD

Dates:

Date application received by the Classification Board: 20 January 2016
Date of decision: 01 February 2016

Decision:

Classification: MA 15+
Consumer advice: Strong bloody violence and sex scene

Synopsis:

Deadpool is an American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics character of the same name. The film follows former special forces operative Wade Wilson, who in an effort to cure his cancer is subjected to an experiment that leaves him with accelerated healing powers, disfigured skin, and a dark, twisted sense of humor. Armed with these new abilities and a new identity, Wilson hunts down the man who nearly destroyed his life in the process.

Reasons for the Decision:

In making this decision, the Classification Board has applied the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Classification Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films 2012 (the Guidelines).

In the Board's view this film warrants an MA 15+ classification as, in accordance with item 4 of the films table of the Code, it is unsuitable for viewing by persons under 15.

Pursuant to the Guidelines, this film is classified MA 15+ as the impact of the classifiable elements is strong. Material classified MA 15+ is considered unsuitable for persons under 15 years of age. It is a legally restricted category.

The classifiable elements are violence and sex that are strong in viewing impact.

The examples described below do not represent an exhaustive list of the content that caused the film to be classified MA 15+. The times given are approximations.

VIOLENCE

The film contains violence that is strong in impact and justified by context.

Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

At 8 minutes in an extended fight sequence, a man is decapitated, with blood spray, by a sword wielded by the superhero Deadpool. Another man is flung into a road sign, splattering his body into a bloody gory mess.

At 12 minutes as the fight sequence continues, a man is shot in the head and his body falls to the ground with his head hitting the tarmac, resulting in blood and visceral matter emanating from the back of his head. A subsequent scene depicts in slow motion, Deadpool jumping and twisting whilst shooting three men in a line with one bullet. The bullet is seen traversing through each man's head in turn, blowing out blood and visceral matter from each head in the path of the bullet. Deadpool is so excited with the results that he yells, "I'm touching myself tonight!"

At 54 minutes, in a fight sequence, Francis rams a steel reinforcing bar through the back of Deadpool. The bar protrudes through Deadpool's body and out through his chest pinning him to the floor. There is blood detail and blood dripping from Deadpool's mouth. Francis then leaves Deadpool in the burning building.

At 83 minutes, another fight sequence depicts Deadpool slicing his enemies with a sword, the leg of one, the stomach of another and decapitates another man wearing a helmet with blood spurting from the neck. Deadpool is then seen kicking the helmet implicitly containing the severed head towards another of the enemy.

SEX

The film contains implied sexual activity that is strong in impact.

The example occurs at 23 minutes where a lengthy montage of scenes depicts Wade and Vanessa naked having sexual intercourse firstly with Vanessa pinned to the wall by Wade, followed by Wade on top of Vanessa, followed by a wider shot depicting Vanessa implicitly naked sitting astride Wade lying on the bed with Vanessa covering her breasts with her hands, followed by Vanessa on all fours with Wade behind her implicitly having rear-entry intercourse. The series ends with Wade on all fours with Vanessa behind him implicitly wearing a strap-on device implying female-to-male anal intercourse. These scenes are accompanied with grinding and

groaning sounds. Wade is subsequently seen leaving the bed and walking away with bare buttocks as he goes to urinate.

OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED OR NOTED

The Board notes that the film contains themes, language and nudity that can be accommodated within a lower classification.

Decision:

This film is classified MA 15+ with consumer advice of strong bloody violence and sex scene.