

Chaplain's Spot

What we allow into our [children's] minds

When our daughter was in primary school, she went to a birthday sleepover. At that sleepover, they watched the 'Scream' movie, with an MA classification. She had nightmares for days after that. Many times I hear similar stories, and I say to myself, 'What happened to responsible parenting?'



As a Chaplain, I meet with students who are fearful of many 'normal' life situations, due to what they have seen in a movie that is meant for beyond their years. Why do we expose children to more than they need at an early age? What has happened to the innocence of childhood? So many factors take this away, through family breakdown, violence and other situations.

As adults, we need to be diligent, to allow our kids to be kids, and to build their independence and resilience by introducing older aspects of life, when they are ready for them. To finish, let me share the Australian movie classifications from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner:

G [General] – suitable for everyone.

PG [Parental guidance] – may be confusing or upsetting for some children

M [Mature] – moderate in impact, 15+ years

MA15+ etc – strong in impact, children under 15 may not legally watch!

May we all be diligent in nurturing and training our children for the future.

One-liner of the week: 'History will judge us by the difference we make in the lives of children' [Nelson Mandela]

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Pastoral care for our community, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.

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