

Dear friends!

"Mummy Russia" has finally answered.

One and a half year after my first letter and fax I got an answer from the Russian Ministry for Culture about film classification legislation in the Russian Federation.

There is a decree from 1993 about the registration of cinema- and video-movies. It is compulsory for every film to get an official sign by the state for which age group it is proofed and a short note about the content of the film.

Following age limits exist:

1) Films for all ages.

No brutality, no sex, no bad language.

2) Films for children over 12, children younger then 12 accompanied by their parents.

Parents decide, if their child can watch the movie. Few brutality without showing blood, short scenes of accidents, catastrophes, nudity. Fantasy films, soft thrilling. Parents should talk about the film with the children and explain it.

3) Films for youth over 16

Almost all films, brutality until a harmful limit.

4) Films for over 18

Adult have full freedom of watching films. If the film is very brutal there has to be an information about it.

Films with the contents following are not allowed to be shown in public in Russia:

Campaigning for war, fascism, racism, disparage of religion, hardcore pornography (child pornography, sadism, sodomy, group sex), brutality against children and animals, disgrace to dead bodies, torture, attracting drug abuse.

There has to be an information about content and age limit of the film in the movie theatres, in the newspapers and in the advertisement.

"Pearl Harbor" and "Harry Potter 1" were both classified "12".

Gerald Netzl

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