

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Slumdog Millionaire

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 0900676.000

Medium: Blu-ray disc

Distributor: Warner Bros Video Ltd

Director: Danny Boyle

Producer: Christian Colson

Country of origin: United Kingdom, United States

Language: English, Hindi

Applicant: Film & Video Labelling Body

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.
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Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Violence, offensive language and content that may disturb.

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 28 May 2009

Date of direction to issue a label: 28 May 2009

	Components	Running time
Menu:	Play Film Scene Selection Special Features Set Up	
Feature(s):	Slumdog Millionaire	120:09
Timed component(s):	Copyright Warning/Icon Home Entertainment Notices	0:28

	Slumdog Discovered: Deleted Scenes x12, Interviews x11, From Script To Screen, Bombay Liquid Dance	67:02
	Slumdog Dreams: Danny Boyle & The Making Of Slumdog Millionaire	22:56
	Deleted Scenes (x12)	34:41
	Jai Ho Remix - Slumdog Cutdown	5:37
	From Script To Screen: Toilet Scene	5:26
	Bombay Liquid Dance	3:00
	Theatrical Trailer (Slumdog Millionaire)	1:57
	Manjha	41:02
Untimed component(s):	Commentary: Danny Boyle & Dev Patel Commentary: Christian Colson & Simon Beaufoy	
Total running time:		302:18

Summary of reasons for decision:

The film Slumdog Millionaire was submitted on DVD prior to cinematic release in January 2009 and classified "Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years", with the descriptive note "Contains violence and offensive language". This decision was registered on 20 January 2009. The version of the feature now submitted on a Blu-ray disc has a shorter running time but appears to be identical to the earlier version.

The extra material associated with the Slumdog Millionaire production gives no reason to alter the original decision. However, the Indian short feature Manjha, also on the Blu-ray disc, deals with sexual abuse in a manner that gives this component a high impact. The story of the abuse of a small girl is harrowing and her brother's revenge, resulting in the death of the abuser, is shocking. An already high level of emotional intensity is heightened by the use of black-and-white film stock. The extent of highly offensive language, used aggressively and in conjunction with dialogue explicitly referring to violent sexual acts, is a major component of the dominant effect of the short film. This material is likely to shock and distress children and younger teenagers. The explicit nature of many of the references may also have a harmful effect on the development of sexual behaviour and attitudes in young people who do not have the experience or maturity to deal with such material.

Because of the inclusion of the short film Manjha the original classification of Slumdog Millionaire requires alteration. A restriction to persons who have attained the age of 16 years is necessary to avoid injury to the public good. The descriptive note is also changed to reflect the presence of the short feature Manjha as one of the additional components on the Blu-ray disc.