

CENSOR FOR A DAY #C4aD

What is Censor for a Day?



The Classification Office runs an event called **Censor for a Day** where we invite senior Media Studies students to a local cinema and walk them through the legislated criteria used to classify films, games, books and other publications. They watch a pre-release film, enjoy a free lunch, and participate in discussions and exercises to think critically about entertainment media.

The event is proving to be a valuable learning opportunity, giving students a unique insight into the world of film classification. The Classification Office also benefits from receiving feedback from young people around their views on film censorship.

Rangatahi are passionate about what they watch and create. They are also arguably the group most impacted by the New Zealand classification system so it is important that we engage with them in order to ensure that this system is meeting their needs.



- The event is aimed at Media Studies students who are at least 16 years old.
- All groups of students must be accompanied by at least one teacher.
- Events are usually held in Term 1 and Term 2 each year. The next events will be in:
 - Lower Hutt (Reading Cinema, Tuesday 21 March 2023)
 - Porirua (Reading Cinema, Wednesday 22 March 2023)
 - Wellington (The Roxy, Miramar, Thursday 23 March 2023)
- Students must be at least 16 years of age at the time of the event, or have parental consent if they are younger.
- We keep the film title a secret to avoid students prejudging it, but we may give content warnings in advance if the film contains sensitive material.

“It was engaging and it didn’t make me bored at all... almost like a movie!”

– Censor for a Day participant on the presentation



What young people tell us about the films they've seen at Censor for a Day

"A universal teen experience"
– *Mid90s*

"I was a bit overwhelmed at the immense power of hatred"
– *BlacKkKlansman*

"It had a healthy message about sex and having a trusting relationship"
– *Blockers*

"It needs to be seen but it is hard to watch because of racial violence. It invokes an important conversation"
– *Judas and the Black Messiah*

"It has made me think of other movies I've seen and what ratings I would give them"
– *About C4aD*



Interested in your school participating in our Censor for a Day programme?

We hope that by participating in Censor for a Day students gain information that is not only useful to their school studies, but also to their everyday movie-watching lives. In turn, these events are a valuable opportunity for Classification Office staff to gain insight into what rangatahi think about both the classification system and the content they're seeing in the films they're watching and the games they're playing.

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