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Application - File No: T16/3849

APPLICATION DETAILS

Status:	Closed	Locked:	Yes
Production:		Suspended:	No
Rates		Media Type:	Online
Applicant:	Netflix, Inc. - by API	Decision Date:	17/12/2016
Application Type:	External Approved Decision received by API	Authorised Assessor:	No
Staff Assessor:	No		

OTHER APPLICATION DETAILS | PRODUCTION | APPLICANT | MEDIA | ATTACHMENTS | PANEL | DECISION | OUTPUT DOCUMENTS | NOTES | FLAGS | HISTORY | TASKS

Note	Date	Created By	System Generated	
Classification decision updated as result of finalised Board audit	28/04/2017 6:23:04 PM	section s22	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Application has been locked.	28/04/2017 6:05:10 PM		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Original Netflix Decision: R 18+ Consumer Advice: ?High Impact Violence	28/04/2017 6:03:57 PM		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Original Netflix Classification Matrix: Themes PG Violence R 18+ Language G Drug Use None Nudity None Sex None	28/04/2017 6:03:12 PM		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Application has been unlocked.	1/02/2017 10:14:05 AM		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Added from API, External Id: 1ac747b3-ab5d-4b37-4990-9158195a32d5	17/12/2016 5:21:52 AM		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Show page: 1 (Total Records: 6)

Export To Excel Records Per Page:



Australian Government
Classification Board

Netflix Audit Report – Disagree

Title:	Rats
Running time:	88 mins
Netflix Certificate ID:	272938
Cobra File Number:	T16/3849
Netflix Certification date:	17/12/2016
Netflix Classification:	R 18+
Netflix Consumer Advice:	High Impact Violence
Reason for audit:	Board Director referred
Audit date:	10/02/2017
Audit Classification:	MA 15+
Audit Consumer Advice:	Strong Themes
Report date:	10/02/2017

SYNOPSIS

A documentary film about the interaction of humans with rats, showing pest controllers in New York City, disease researchers in New Orleans, rat catchers in Mumbai, people involved in the trade and preparation of rats as a restaurant delicacy in Vietnam, and the Karni Mata temple in India.

There is no previous history for this title.

AUDIT REPORT

Section 22CH of the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Films) Act 1995* (the Act) permits the Classification Board (the Board) to revoke a classification decision produced by the operation of an approved classification tool if the Board is of the opinion that it would have given the material a different classification, or determined different consumer advice for the material. The Board may exercise this power of revocation on its own initiative, which provides the basis for the Board auditing decisions of classification tools, or on application. However, if the Board revokes a decision produced by an approved classification tool, the Board must immediately classify the material.

The Netflix Rating Tool has been approved to classify certain films. When auditing films classified by the Netflix Rating Tool, the Board follows provisions of the Act and applies the National Classification Code and the Guidelines for the Classification of Computer Films 2012. The Board also takes into account the matters set out in section 11 of the Act.

The Netflix Rating Tool classified the film **Rats R 18+** with consumer advice of **High Impact Violence**.

It appears the Netflix Tool has inaccurately determined the impact of the violence and themes in the film. Descriptions and depictions of animal cruelty, which are a major topic in the film, are covered by the classifiable element of themes, and the impact of themes in the film is strong and can therefore be accommodated at MA 15+.

Analysis of Netflix Tool Classification Matrix:

Themes - PG: This is incorrect, it should be MA 15+.

Violence – R18+: This is incorrect, it should be none.

Language – G: This is incorrect, as there is PG language at 42 minutes into the film.

Drug use – none: This is correct

Nudity – none: This is correct

Sex – none: This is correct

In the opinion of the Assessor, had the Board classified the film instead of it being classified by the Netflix Rating Tool, the Board would have classified the film **Rats MA 15+** with consumer advice of **Strong Themes**. The decision produced by the Netflix Rating Tool should therefore be revoked and the Board should classify the film.

OUTCOME OF AUDIT

The classification should be revoked and the film should be classified by the Board in accordance with the report that is attached and entered as a new classification decision in COBRA.

Viewed by:

section s47F

Senior Advisor, QAE (Assessor)

The Director determines, under section 56 of the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Films) Act 1995, that the Board may consider any relevant information or advice supplied by an APS staff member assisting the Board when considering whether to exercise its discretion to revoke a classification made by an approved classification tool and if so, the classification that should be given. By signing below, the Director determines that the following action will be taken in relation to this audit:

1. Agree to accept the Assessor 'disagree' recommendation of new classification and/or CA,

AND

Agree for the content provider to be contacted, advising this is the preliminary view, that if no further information is received, the Netflix Classification Tool classification will be revoked and the classification decision in accordance with the preliminary view is to be substituted

MA15+ strong themes

Agreed / Not Agreed

2. Agree to accept the Assessor 'disagree' recommendation but reject the recommended classification and/or CA and assigns new classification and/or CA of:

AND

Agree for the content provider to be contacted, advising this is the preliminary view, that if no further information is received, the Netflix Classification Tool classification will be revoked and the classification decision in accordance with the preliminary view is to be substituted

section s47F

2/3/17

Agreed / Not Agreed

3. Agree to program to a panel of the Board to determine a preliminary view (Director to advise Assessor)

AND

Agree for the content provider to be contacted, advising this is the preliminary view, that if no further information is received from the applicant, the Netflix Classification Tool classification is revoked and the classification decision in accordance with the preliminary view is to be substituted

Agreed / Not Agreed

4. Agree to reject the Assessor 'disagree' recommendation and confirm agreement with Netflix Classification Tool classification and CA.

Agreed / Not Agreed

section s47F

Director
Classification Board

10 February 17

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Application - File No: T16/3849

APPLICATION DETAILS			
Status:	Closed	Locked:	No
Production:	Rats	Suspended:	No
Applicant:	Netflix, Inc. - by API	Media Type:	Online
Application Type:	External Approved Decision received by API	Decision Date:	17/12/2016
Staff Assessor:	Yes	Authorised Assessor:	No

OTHER APPLICATION DETAILS PRODUCTION APPLICANT MEDIA ATTACHMENTS PANEL RECOMMENDATION OUTPUT DOCUMENTS

RECOMMENDATION DETAILS	
Locked:	No
Entered By:	on 17/12/2016
Signed By:	on 17/12/2016
Decision:	R 18+
Decision Revoked Date:	
Decision Revoked By:	
Decision Revoked Reason:	
Consumer Advice:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Impact Violence
Synopsis:	
Reason For Decision:	
Decision:	
Details Of Opinions (Including Minority Opinions):	
Voting Details:	Netflix classification tool
Voting Breakdown:	
Certificate Number:	272681
Certificate Date:	17/12/2016

CLASSIFICATION MATRIX	
Classification Matrix	
Themes	PG
Violence	R 18+
Language	G
Drug Use	None
Nudity	None
Sex	None

HISTORICAL INFORMATION	
Sex Decision:	
Violence Decision:	
Language Decision:	

PANEL MEMBER/S OPINIONS			
Panel Member	Opinion Marked	Classification	Consumer Advices
section s22	Yes		
Show page: 1 (Total Records: 1)			



* T - 5 3 - 2 7 2 6 8 1 - B A R R I J *

Title: **RATS**

Producer(s): **NOT SHOWN**
JEREMY CALNICK / MORGAN SPURLOCK

Director(s): **MORGAN SPURLOCK**

Applicant: NETFLIX, INC. - BY API

FILMS/COMPUTER GAMES

Classification: MA15+ G PG M MA15+ R 18+ X 18+ RC

Consumer Advice: STRONG THEMES
10/2/17.0

File Number
T16/3849

Panel Member
section s22

Application Type
External Approved
Decision received by
API

Format
ONLINE

Duration
~~89~~ 88

Version
ORIGINAL

Country
USA

Language
ENGLISH

Production Date
2016

Viewing Room
DESK

Viewing Date
1.2.17

Classification matrix (films/computer games only)

	None	G	PG	M	MA15+	R18+	RC
Themes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Violence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>an</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> 1(a)
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Language			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/> 1(b)
Drug Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Nudity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input type="checkbox"/> 1(c)

PUBLICATIONS

<input type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED <i>or</i> <input type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED - M	<p><u>Covers:</u></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both front and rear covers are suitable for public display (otherwise not permitted in this category) <p><u>Contents:</u></p> <input type="checkbox"/> is not likely to include material that offends a reasonable adult to the extent that it should be restricted; <i>And/or</i> <input type="checkbox"/> includes material that is not recommended for some readers, ie, "Unrestricted - M - not recommended for readers under 15 years." <p>In exceptional circumstances, the Board may impose a condition that it not be sold, displayed for sale or delivered unless it is contained in a sealed package (section 13A of the Act).</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> CATEGORY 1	<p><u>Packaging/condition:</u> <i>Either</i></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Sealed wrapper (front and rear covers suitable for public display) <i>Or</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Plain opaque sealed package: <input type="checkbox"/> Front only <input type="checkbox"/> Rear only <input type="checkbox"/> Front and rear
<input type="checkbox"/> CATEGORY 2	
<input type="checkbox"/> RC	<input type="checkbox"/> 1(a) <input type="checkbox"/> 1(b) <input type="checkbox"/> 1(c)

Notes: section s47F

Signature: [Redacted]

Date: 1/2/17

KATS -

1=27=57



1=26=49

RAF IN TRAP.

1=26=24

SKULLS IN Z/W. ~~TITLE~~ "LIT"

1=25=32 (PG)

- CORPES (Z/W). (PG)

1=24=30

TITLE "RAF"

"DIRECTED BY MORGAN SPURLING"

1=24

EO SNEEMAN

1=23

"THEY JUMP OUT - I'M JUMPING BACK
New YORK

1=22

"WELCOME TO THE RAT ACADEMY"

1=21 L (PG)

YOU'LL SEE "RAF PEE" ALL OVER THIS CITY

1=20

"RAF + FLEAS WIPES OUT ZOO PER-

1=19 T (MA)

DISEASE + VISUALS "SALMONELLA RICKETSIN"

(V) PG

"BITE SOMEONE IN THE
FACE + LITERALLY KILL US
RICK SNEEMAN

1=18

SNEEMAN - "MALF - ASSG"

1=17

SNEEMAN "RAF GOT INTO THE
KIDS CRIB"

1=07-8

T (MA)

- STILL PHOTO OF BITE MARK
ON BABIES

- 1:07

NEW ORLEANS

RAT IN TRAP

DR MICHAEL ZUMM

- SO THROUGH PROCESS OF ENZYME ASIN

1:02

DISSECT RAT - EXTRACT PARASITES FROM LUNGS

1:00

BOFFLY LARVA EXTRACTS

SEE

RICKETSIA LEPTOSPIRA - PHOTOS OF DISEASED LIMBS
HANTA, BARTONELLA

MA

-57

SB

SS

TITLE: MUMBAI

BANGARAN "MY JOB IS KILLING RATS"

MAN MURDER RAT - PULLS NECK AND KILLS IT

49-

(T) - ~~MA/MA~~

FACTORY WORKER - "THEY BLEE OUR

47:

(V) - 5/1/86

MARCH - ~~WORK~~ TRAP LIKE MULL

45:

(U) - 8/86

TOOK AWAY THEIR FOOD "TURNS

INTO A SHAM OLL

"STARTS EATING THE BABIES"

44

TITLE: KARDAI PROVINCE CAMBODIA

~~36~~

34.

T-(M)

WOMAN CAPTURING UP RATS

WITH A MEAT CLEAVER - RAT SKINNED

33.

SKINNING - PUT INTO FRIDGE

31

- COOKIES

VIETNAMESE

PEOPLE EATING

30

RAT CORPSE - DRESSING

28

NYC - ARCHIVES OF ANIMAL BOOK

26:

TITLE WESTWATER NEW YORK

LAB

25

- TAXIDERMIST - DISSECTING RAT

TITLE LARSE - BEING STRID RAT SKELETON

16-50

TITLE COMECTAN ENGLAND

13

- GROUP OF JERREY RIP RAD APPE

12 (MA)

- TWO TERRIBLE TEARING RAT
WHILE PARSONS BUSY WITH SW

11

T (MA)

PARSONS MOLD UP EMBLISHED RAT
- SLOW-HAND TURNS AROUND

10

TITLE RAJASTHAN, INDIA

MINDU JUNGLE - KARNI. MATA

"TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND RATS LIVE HERE"

"HOLY ANIMAL - WE CALL IT RAJA"

8:00

"EATING FOOD TOGETHER, SLEEPING TOGETHER"

3:25

(REGIONS)

2:50

PROD = JEREMY CHILNICK / MORGAN SPURLOCK

0:00

- END

MA 1st STRONG THEMES

section s22

From: section s22
Sent: Wednesday, 8 March 2017 9:10 AM
To: s 22
Cc: s 22
Subject: Rating Change notifications [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: section s22
170301 Rats.pdt

Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Dear s 22

Please find attached rating change notifications for:

section s22

Rats


Best regards,


sectio
n s22




section s22
Senior Advisor / Compliance & Education / Classification Branch
Department of Communications and the Arts

s
23-33 Mary Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2210
Locked Bag 3, Haymarket, NSW 1240

–
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Australian Government
Classification Board

s 22

Rating Change

Dear s 22

I refer to the Australian rating produced by the Netflix Classification Tool in relation to the film Rats.

Netflix Certificate ID: 272938
Netflix Classification: R 18+
Netflix Consumer Advice: High Impact Violence

In our email dated 14 February 2017 the Classification Board (the Board) advised you of its preliminary view to revoke the classification produced by the Netflix Rating Tool under section 22CH of the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Films) Act 1995* (the Act).

Having taken the submissions in your email received 28 February 2017 into account, the Board remains of the opinion that the film should be rated **MA 15+** with consumer advice of **Strong Themes**.

Reasons for the decision are set out below:

The classifiable element is that of themes 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.

THEMES

The film contains strong themes that are justified by context.

At approximately 8 minutes photographs of human limbs covered in sores from salmonella and rickettsia contracted from rats are shown.

At approximately 20 minutes former ratcatcher Ed Sheehan discusses finding that “rats got into the kids crib” Still photos of bite marks on the limbs of babies are briefly shown on screen. At approximately 28 minutes photographs of human limbs with severe sores and lesions from hanta, bartonella and leptospira contracted from rats are shown.

From approximately 69 minutes, a ratcatcher named Parsons is shown catching rats with trained terriers. At 78 minutes the terriers are shown ripping apart several live rats, and at approximately 80 minutes Parsons holds up a semi-eviscerated rat which the camera dwells on.

If you do not agree with the Board’s decision, you may be eligible to apply to the Review Board for a review of the decision. Further information about reviews can be found at www.classification.gov.au.

If you have any questions, please email [section s22](#) and cc [section s22](#)

Yours sincerely,
[section s47F](#)

Lesley O’Brien
Director

March 17

section s22

From: section s22
Sent: Tuesday, 14 February 2017 2:19 PM
To: s 22
Subject: Preliminary View – Rats [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Rats.docx

Categories: Recorded in IMS
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Dear s 22

I refer to the Australian rating produced by the Netflix Rating Tool (the tool) for the film Rats.

Certificate ID: 272938
Netflix tool Classification: R 18+
Netflix tool Consumer Advice: High Impact Violence

We have been advised by the Australian Classification Board (the Board) that they have formed a preliminary view about the tool’s classification of this film. Attached is the Board’s reasons.

The Board have advised that they disagree with the R 18+ classification and consumer advice.

The Board have advised that it is their preliminary view the decision made by the tool should be revoked and the film should be classified MA 15+ with consumer advice of Strong Themes for the following reasons:

- The tool has not identified Themes at the MA 15+ level;
- The tool has identified violence incorrectly (animal cruelty is covered by themes);

Included below is a matrix which lists each of the classifiable elements and the level they are present in the film.

	None	G	PG	M	MA15+	R18+
Themes					X	
Violence	X					
Sex	X					
Language			X			
Drug Use	X					
Nudity	X					

If you wish to make a submission to the Board, please reply within five business days to s 22. After the five day period, the Board will finalise its decision and this will be published on the National Classification Database.

Yours sincerely,



section s22

Senior Advisor / Compliance & Education / Classification Branch
Department of Communications and the Arts

section s22

23-33 Mary Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2210

Locked Bag 3, Haymarket, NSW 1240

-

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Synopsis

A documentary film about the interaction of humans with rats, showing pest controllers in New York City, disease researchers in New Orleans, rat catchers in Mumbai, people involved in the trade and preparation of rats as a restaurant delicacy in Vietnam, and the Karni Mata temple in India.

Reasons

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 element is that of themes 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.

THEMES

The film contains strong themes that are justified by context.

At approximately 8 minutes photographs of human limbs covered in sores from salmonella and rickettsia contracted from rats are shown.

At approximately 20 minutes former ratcatcher Ed Sheehan discusses finding that “rats got into the kids crib” Still photos of bite marks on the limbs of babies are briefly shown on screen.

At approximately 28 minutes photographs of human limbs with severe sores and lesions from hanta, bartonella and leptospira contracted from rats are shown.

From approximately 69 minutes, a ratcatcher named Parsons is shown catching rats with trained terriers. At 78 minutes the terriers are shown ripping apart several live rats, and at approximately 80 minutes Parsons holds up a semi-eviscerated rat which the camera dwells on.

OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED OR NOTED

The Board notes that this film contains coarse language such as “shithole” at 43 minutes which can be accommodated at a PG classification.

In accordance with section 22CH(4) of the Classification Act, if the Board decides to revoke the classification of a film classified by an approved classification tool, the Board must classify the film. The Board has decided to revoke the classification of the film **Rats**, which was classified **R 18+** with consumer advice of **High Impact Violence**.

The revocation decision takes effect immediately before this classification decision.

Decision

This film is classified **MA 15+** with consumer advice of **Strong Themes**.