

The Expendables 2 Parents Guide



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When considering whether or not to introduce your child to a film, it's essential to evaluate its content carefully. The Expendables 2, directed by Simon West and released in 2012, is the sequel to the original film, The Expendables, and features an all-star cast of action heroes, including Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Bruce Willis. While this film may appeal to fans of the action genre, parents should be aware of its content and themes. This article serves as a comprehensive guide for parents, detailing the film's rating, themes, violence, language, and other critical aspects to help make an informed decision.

Film Rating and General Overview

The Expendables 2 is rated R for strong violence and language. This rating indicates that the film contains material that may be inappropriate for children under 17, and parental guidance is strongly advised. The movie is a continuation of the story of a group of mercenaries who are tasked with a dangerous mission that leads them into direct conflict with a ruthless enemy.

Plot Summary

The plot revolves around Barney Ross (Sylvester Stallone) and his team of mercenaries, collectively known as The Expendables. After a mission goes awry, they find themselves seeking revenge against a vicious arms dealer, played by Jean-Claude Van Damme. The film combines elements of camaraderie, vengeance, and high-octane action sequences, typical of the genre.

Content Breakdown

To provide a clearer understanding of the film's content, let's break it down into several key categories:

Violence

The Expendables 2 is packed with action and violence, which is a hallmark of the franchise. Here are some key points regarding the film's violent content:

- Gun Violence: The film features numerous shootouts, with characters using a variety of firearms, including handguns, rifles, and machine guns. Many scenes depict characters shooting at enemies, resulting in injuries and fatalities.
- Explosions: There are several large-scale explosions, particularly in combat scenes, which can be intense and graphic.
- Hand-to-Hand Combat: The movie showcases martial arts and hand-to-hand fighting, with characters engaging in brutal physical confrontations.
- Blood and Gore: There are moments where blood is visible, and injuries are portrayed graphically. This includes scenes where characters are shot, stabbed, or wounded in various ways.

Given the intensity of the violence, parents should consider whether their children are mature enough to handle this level of action.

Language

The film includes a considerable amount of profanity and strong language. Key points include:

- Frequent Profanity: There are multiple instances of strong language, including the use of the F-word

and other derogatory terms.

- Mild Insults: Characters often exchange insults, which may include language that some parents may find inappropriate for younger audiences.

Parents should be aware that the language may not be suitable for children, especially those sensitive to profanity.

Sexual Content

While The Expendables 2 does not focus heavily on sexual themes, there are brief moments that may raise concerns:

- Suggestive Dialogue: Some scenes include suggestive comments or innuendos that may not be appropriate for younger viewers.
- Limited Nudity: There are no explicit scenes; however, there are a few instances that could be considered suggestive or mildly inappropriate.

Parents may wish to discuss these elements with their children if they decide to watch the film together.

Substance Abuse

The film does not prominently feature substance abuse, but there are a few scenes that allude to drinking:

- Alcohol Consumption: Characters are shown drinking alcohol in a social setting, but it is not depicted as a central theme or heavily emphasized.

While substance abuse is not a major component of the film, parents should be mindful of the portrayal of alcohol consumption.

Thematic Elements

Understanding the themes of The Expendables 2 can help parents gauge whether the film's messages align with their values.

Camaraderie and Brotherhood

One of the central themes of the film is the bond between the members of The Expendables. The film highlights:

- Loyalty: The characters demonstrate fierce loyalty to one another, willing to risk their lives for their friends.

- Friendship: Moments of camaraderie and friendship are interspersed throughout the film, showcasing the importance of teamwork.

While these themes can serve as positive messages, they are often overshadowed by the extreme violence and action.

Revenge and Justice

The quest for revenge is a prominent theme in the film, as the characters seek to avenge the death of a friend. Key points include:

- Moral Ambiguity: The film raises questions about the morality of revenge and whether it serves justice or perpetuates violence.
- Heroism: Characters are portrayed as anti-heroes, often engaging in morally questionable actions in the name of justice.

Parents may want to discuss the implications of these themes with their children, particularly regarding the consequences of revenge.

Conclusion

In summary, The Expendables 2 is an action-packed film that is rated R for strong violence and language. Parents should consider the intense violence, strong language, and thematic elements when deciding if it is appropriate for their children. The film contains graphic depictions of violence, frequent profanity, and some suggestive content, which may not be suitable for younger viewers.

When making a decision, parents might consider:

- The maturity level of their children
- Their individual values regarding violence and language in media
- Whether they plan to watch the film together and discuss its themes

Ultimately, The Expendables 2 is a film designed for an adult audience, and parental discretion is strongly advised. By understanding the film's content and themes, parents can make an informed choice about whether it aligns with their family's viewing preferences.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Expendables 2' rated and why?

'The Expendables 2' is rated R for strong violence and language. The film includes intense action sequences, gunfire, and explosions, along with frequent strong language.

Is 'The Expendables 2' appropriate for children?

Due to its R rating, 'The Expendables 2' is generally not considered appropriate for children. Parents might want to preview it first to make an informed decision.

What kind of violence is depicted in 'The Expendables 2'?

The film features graphic violence, including gun battles, hand-to-hand combat, and some scenes of bloodshed, which may be intense for younger viewers.

Are there any sexual content or nudity in 'The Expendables 2'?

There are minimal instances of sexual content, with some suggestive dialogue and a brief scene of partial nudity, but it is not a central focus of the film.

Does 'The Expendables 2' contain any drug use?

Yes, there are scenes that depict alcohol consumption and references to drug use, which contribute to the film's mature themes.

What language is used in 'The Expendables 2'?

The film includes strong language throughout, including profanity and crude remarks, which is part of its R rating.

What age group is 'The Expendables 2' suitable for?

The film is suitable for audiences aged 17 and older due to its R rating, as it contains content that may not be suitable for younger viewers.

Are there any positive messages in 'The Expendables 2'?

While primarily an action film, 'The Expendables 2' touches on themes of friendship, loyalty, and teamwork among the characters, although these messages may be overshadowed by the violence.

How can parents ensure 'The Expendables 2' is appropriate for their children?

Parents can watch the film first or read detailed reviews and guides to understand its content, allowing them to judge if it's suitable based on their child's maturity level.

What should parents consider before letting their kids watch 'The Expendables 2'?

Parents should consider their child's sensitivity to violence, language, and mature themes, as well as their overall understanding of the film's context and genre.

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