

DAIL ÉIREANN
25 NOV 1998
ON ORDER PAPER

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
FILM CENSOR
FOR 1992

Houses of the Oireachtas

THIRD REPORT OF THE FILM CENSOR UNDER THE
VIDEO RECORDINGS ACT, 1989.

TO: MS. MAIRE GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, T.D.,
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1992.

The Video Recordings Act, 1989, the main purpose of which is to control and regulate the supply and importation of video recordings, was enacted on the 27th December, 1989.

Section 29 of that Act provides for the making by me and the Censorship of Films Appeal Board of annual and special reports to the Minister for Justice on our activities under the Video Recordings Act, 1989 and the Censorship of Films Acts, 1923 to 1992.

During 1992 I continued to perform my functions under those sections of the Video Recordings Act, 1989 which had been brought into operation and, of course, I continued to perform my functions under the Censorship of Films Act, 1923 to 1992.

VIDEOS

General.

In October, 1992 work commenced on the building of an extension to my office to accommodate the additional administrative and censorship staff required to implement the certification and classification provision of the Video Recordings Act, 1989. This extension incorporates specially designed viewing booths for examination purposes in addition to general office accommodation for administrative staff. During the year work continued on the design and development of computerised systems for the office.

Legislation.

The Censorship of Films (Amendment) Act, 1992 was enacted on 21 December, 1992. This Act enables the Minister for Justice to appoint assistant censors to assist the Official Censor in the performance of his functions. It also amends the Censorship of Films Acts, 1923-1970 and the Video Recordings Act, 1989 to provide for the making of Annual Reports and composition of the Censorship of Films Appeal Board.

Licences.

A licence is required for each premises and/or vehicle and/or place from which it is proposed to sell video recordings or let them on hire. A licence remains in force for 12 months from the date of commencement of the licensing period.

The following licence fees were prescribed in 1991 -

Wholesale	-	£4,000
Retail	-	£100

From 1st January, 1992 to 31st December, 1992, 1433 licences (9 wholesale and 1424 retail) were issued. Details as follows:

9	-	Wholesale
1318	-	Premises
106	-	Vehicles

Video Recordings Register of Wholesale and Retail Licences.

These Registers are available and may be inspected free of charge by members of the public at my office at 16 Harcourt Terrace, Dublin 2.

Prohibition Orders.

Section 7 of the Video Recordings Act, 1989 provides for the making of an order prohibiting the supply of a video recording if it is considered that the work is unfit for viewing because -

- (a) the viewing of it would be likely to cause persons to commit crimes, whether by inciting or encouraging them to do so or by indicating or suggesting ways of doing so or of avoiding detection,

or

- (b) the viewing of it would be likely to stir up hatred against a group of persons in the State or elsewhere on account of their race, colour, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origins, membership of the travelling community or sexual orientation,

or

(c) the viewing of it would tend, by reason of the inclusion in it of obscene or indecent matter, to deprave or corrupt persons who might view it,

or

(d) it depicts acts of gross violence or cruelty (including mutilation and torture) towards humans or animals.

In the year to 31st December, 1992 prohibition orders were made in respect of two hundred and fifty three video works. Details were published in Iris Oifigiuil on 24th March, 1992, 26th and 29th May, 1992, 2nd and 5th June, 1992, 17th and 31st July, 1992, 7th and 18th August, 1992, and 4th, 15th, 18th and 22nd December, 1992.

Register of Prohibited Video Works.

This Register is available to the public for inspection free of charge at my office at 16 Harcourt Terrace, Dublin 2.

FILMS

FILMS PRESENTED FOR
CERTIFICATION

FILM CENSOR'S DECISION

CATEGORY OF FILM	NO.OF FILMS	NO.OF CERTIFICATES GRANTED		NO.OF FILM CENSOR'S DECISIONS APPEALED	NO.OF FILMS REJECTED
		WITHOUT CUTS	WITH CUTS		
<u>DRAMA & VARIETY</u>					
Films over 5,000ft	145	145	-	2	-
2,000 to 5,000ft	-	-	-	-	-
Under 2,000ft	7	7	-	-	-
<u>TRAILER</u>	170	170	-	-	-
<u>EDUCATIONAL</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>INTEREST/TOPICAL/ TRAVEL</u>	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	322	322	-	2	-

The total length of films presented for certification in 1992 was 1,460,244 feet. The total length of the 2 films where the Films Censor's decision was appealed was 20,970 feet.

The 145 films of 2,000 feet and over came from the following countries:- USA 94; UNITED KINGDOM 14; FRANCE 8; AUSTRALIA 4; IRELAND 1; GERMANY 1; SPAIN 1; CHINA 1.

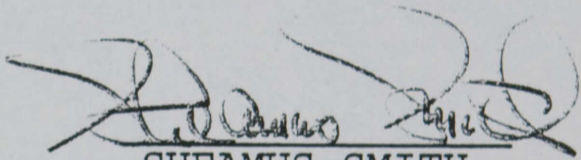
Twenty one films were co-produced by the following countries:- FRANCE/UNITED KINGDOM 5; IRELAND/UNITED KINGDOM 2; FRANCE/GERMANY 2; USA/France 2; FRANCE/ITALY 1;

AUSTRIA/GERMANY 1; BRITAIN/FRANCE/SPAIN 1; USA/JAPAN 1;
 CANADA/FRANCE 1; USA/UK 1; USA/GERMANY 1; AUSTRALIA/FRANCE 1;
 USA/SWITZERLAND 1; CANADA/AUSTRALIA 1.

CERTIFICATES GRANTED BY FILM CENSOR IN 1992.

	GENERAL	UNDER 12 YEARS (WITH AN ADULT)	OVER 15 YEARS	OVER 18 YEARS	TOTAL
<u>WITHOUT CUTS</u>	191	19	70	42	322
<u>WITH CUTS</u>	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	191	19	70	42	322

Houses of the Oireachtas


 SHEAMUS SMITH.
 FILM CENSOR.

Houses of the Oireachtas



D78 (25.11.1998)

PN 6491

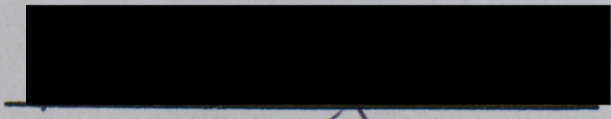
DOCUMENT(S) TO BE LAID BEFORE HOUSE OF OIREACHTAS

DAIL EIREANN
25 NOV 1998
ON ORDER PAPER

DAIL
RECEIVED
24 NOV 1998
EIREANN

Clerk of Dail

I enclose copies* of the undermentioned document(s) to be laid before the House. Information sought below is as set out.



pp Head of Department or other body

1. Department or other body laying document

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

2. Title of document

Annual Report of the Film Censor for 1992

3. If laid pursuant to statute, state Title and section of Act

Section 29(1) (a) of the Video Recordings Act, 1989

4. Is there a statutory period in relation to the laying of the document?

If so, give particulars

..... No

5. Is a motion of approval necessary?

..... No

*Three copies of the document in respect of each House, or six copies where it is to be laid before one House only.

✓ S71 (25.11.1998)

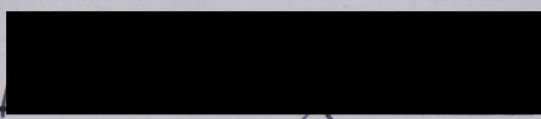
P.N. 6491

DOCUMENT(S) TO BE LAID BEFORE HOUSE OF OIREACHTAS

SEANAD ÉIREANN
25 NOV 1998
ON ORDER PAPER

Clerk of Seanad.....

I enclose copies* of the undermentioned document(s) to be laid before the House. The information sought below is as set out.



SEANAD RECEIVED
24 NOV 1998
ÉIREANN

pp Head of Department or other body

1. Department or other body laying document

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

2. Title of document

Annual Report of the Film Censor for 1992

3. If laid pursuant to statute, state Title and section of Act

Section 29(1) (a) of the Video Recordings Act, 1989

4. Is there a statutory period in relation to the laying of the document?

If so, give particulars

..... No

5. Is a motion of approval necessary?

..... No

*Three copies of the document in respect of each House, or six copies where it is to be laid before one House only.