MOVIES
CHANGED OR BANNED IN SOME COUNTRIES

Different countries, different rules. Here are some famous movies that were changed or banned because of their content.





The Little Mermaid
(1989)
Some scenes edited because of the depiction of the sea witch.
China



Top Gun
(1986)
A scene with the flag of Taiwan was removed.
China



Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
(2001)
Some scenes reduced or removed.
United Arab Emirates



The Simpsons Movie
(2007)
Certain religious references were deleted.
Egypt



Brokeback Mountain
(2005)
Banned due to LGBTQ+ themes.
Russia



The Interview
(2014)
Banned and threatened because of its plot about North Korea.
North Korea



Deadpool
(2016)
Heavily edited: violence and language toned down.
China



Bohemian Rhapsody
(2018)
Some scenes edited because of a reported inaccuracy.
China

> Censorship can change the story... but the message often stays the same.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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WARM-UP ACTIVITY

THINK AND DISCUSS

Look at the poster and discuss these questions with a partner:

1. Have you ever watched a movie that was controversial?
2. Do you think movies can influence people's behavior?
3. Why do some countries ban movies?
4. Should movies be different for children and adults?
5. Have you ever stopped watching a movie because it made you uncomfortable? Why?
6. Do social media and the internet make movie censorship more difficult today?
7. What topics in movies are considered too controversial in your country?



- LET'S SHARE!

Share your ideas with the class and listen to your classmates.

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LISTEN AND REPEAT

Listen and repeat these words and their meaning.

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
Restriction	A rule that limits something	There were age **restrictions** for the movie.
Prohibit	To officially stop something	Some countries **prohibit** violent films.
Editing	Changing or removing parts of a movie	The movie needed heavy **editing** before release.
Debate	A discussion with different opinions	The film started a public **debate** online.
Viewer	A person who watches a movie or show	Many **viewers** enjoyed the movie despite the controversy.
Government	The people who control a country	The **government** banned the movie in cinemas.
Beliefs	Ideas that people think are true	The movie conflicted with some religious **beliefs**.
Inappropriate	Not suitable or acceptable	Some parents thought the scenes were **inappropriate**.
Warning	A notice about possible sensitive material	The movie included a **warning** before it started.
Theme	The main subject or idea in a movie	Freedom is an important **theme** in the film.
Scene	A part of a movie	One **scene** was removed in some countries.
Culture	Traditions and beliefs of a group	Movies can represent a country's **culture**.
Freedom of Speech	The right to express opinions freely	Many actors defend **freedom of speech**.
Restricted	Limited or controlled	The movie was **restricted** for younger audiences.
Entertainment	Movies, music, or activities for fun	Cinema is a popular form of **entertainment**.
Influence	The power to affect people	Movies can **influence** society and opinions.
Law	An official rule in a country	Some censorship **laws** are very strict.
Public Opinion	What people think about something	**Public opinion** changed after the movie was released.
Producer	A person who helps make movies	The **producer** defended the controversial scenes.
Criticism	Negative opinions about something	The movie received a lot of **criticism** online.

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This listening section includes FOUR conversations between two people with FOUR questions per conversation (TOTAL QUESTIONS: 16). Listen carefully and choose the correct answer. Once the audio has started, it cannot be stopped. Listen to the audio ONCE ONLY.

Violent Movies and Restrictions

QUESTIONS 1 TO 4



SECTION 1

Political Movies and Freedom of Speech

QUESTIONS 5 TO 8



1. Why was the movie restricted in some countries?

A. Because the movie was too long
B. Because of violent scenes
C. Because the actors were controversial
D. Because it was unpopular

2. Where did Jake learn about the restriction?

A. On social media
B. At school
C. In an article
D. On television

3. What does Emma say about teenagers?

A. Teenagers never watch violent movies
B. Teenagers already watch similar content online
C. Teenagers prefer documentaries
D. Teenagers dislike action movies

4. What does Jake believe?

A. All violent movies are dangerous
B. Movies never influence people
C. The effect depends on the viewer and the message
D. Governments should ban all action movies



5. What type of movie did Liam watch?

A. A horror movie
B. A comedy
C. A documentary
D. A romantic film

6. Why was the documentary controversial?

A. Because it criticized political leaders
B. Because it included violence
C. Because it was very expensive
D. Because the actors were unknown

7. What does Liam believe is important?

A. Television ratings
B. Freedom of speech
C. Movie awards
D. Online popularity

8. How does Sophia describe public opinion?

A. Calm
B. Divided
C. Unimportant
D. Positive

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Edited Movies on Television

QUESTIONS 9 TO 12





9. What did Carlos notice about the movie?

A. It was shorter than usual
B. It looked different from the original version
C. It had technical problems
D. It was in another language

10. What did Mia think happened to the movie?

A. It was canceled
B. It was translated
C. Some scenes were removed
D. The actors changed

11. Why do television networks edit movies?

A. To reduce costs
B. To improve the acting
C. To make movies appropriate for families
D. To make movies funnier

12. Why was Mia confused?

A. The movie ended too early
B. Too many scenes were edited
C. The actors spoke too quickly
D. The subtitles were incorrect



Controversial Themes in Movies

QUESTIONS 13 TO 16



13. Why are people debating the movie online?

A. Because it is a comedy
B. Because the themes are controversial
C. Because the actors are famous
D. Because it was very expensive

14. Why do some viewers think the movie is inappropriate?

A. Because it includes social criticism
B. Because it is too short
C. Because the music is bad
D. Because it is poorly acted

15. What does Noah think?

A. Difficult topics should not appear in movies
B. Movies should only entertain audiences
C. Movies should discuss difficult topics
D. Censorship is always necessary

16. According to Ava, what can movies do?

A. Replace schools
B. Educate audiences and create awareness
C. Eliminate controversy
D. Change government laws

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AGREE OR DISAGREE?

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Read each statement and decide if you agree or disagree.
Discuss your answers with a partner.

	STATEMENT	I AGREE	I DISAGREE
1	Movies should never be banned.	○	○
2	Violent movies influence teenagers.	○	○
3	Governments should control movie content.	○	○
4	Freedom of speech is more important than censorship.	○	○
5	Some movies are inappropriate for children.	○	○
6	Social media makes movie censorship more difficult today.	○	○
7	Horror movies should have stronger restrictions.	○	○
8	Movies can negatively influence children's behavior.	○	○
9	Streaming platforms should remove offensive movies.	○	○
10	Countries should respect cultural differences in movies.	○	○
11	Some controversial movies help society discuss important problems.	○	○
12	Parents should control what teenagers watch online.	○	○
13	Political movies can create conflict in society.	○	○
14	Content warnings are necessary before some movies.	○	○
15	Banned movies usually become more popular after the controversy.	○	○
16	A movie can be dangerous even without violence.	○	○
17	Sometimes banning a movie makes teenagers more interested in watching it.	○	○
18	Artificial intelligence could be used in the future to censor movies automatically.	○	



THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS.
EXPRESS YOUR OPINION!



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