

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification enquiries](#)
To: [enquiries](#)
Subject: Classification Enquiry - Classification Board - Film - Kashmir Files - Film Is Fuelling Anti-Muslim Sentiments [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 18 March 2022 8:02:33 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Fri, 2022-03-18 20:02

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Making a complaint

Online form

First name

S47F

Last name

S47

State or Territory

S47

Phone number

S47F

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

Re: Movie The Kashmirfiles is wreaking havoc globally.

Twitter world is full of clips from self styled vigilantes giving a call to war against the Muslims in general and Kashmiri students and females in particular.

This is not going to end well :(

On top it would appear that most Hindu Right wing groups, BJP politicians, including the Indian PM himself, and Indian state apparatus are promoting and encouraging the screening and attendance at the movies.

There are reports of vigilantes giving passionate speeches at the end of the movie exhorting hindus to abduct and impregnate muslim women to harvest hindu babies from muslim wombs.

One such video clip can be found at this link:

https://twitter.com/joshloz/status/1504190455759532033?t=WzOMkT8YQ5yP_D6KJU1qg&s=19

The movie is only giving rise and fuelling further anti muslim and anti Kashmiri sentiments.

It promotes islamophobia and mis-information to legitimise Genocide of Kashmiri Muslims.

Australia has been no different with the advance screening that happened last week.

How educated people and professionals can fall for such propaganda, is beyond my comprehension.

The movie poses a grave security threat to Kahmiri muslims in Australia and Australian Muslim at large.

It also risks a full scale confrontation between the peoples of India and Pakistan, as both the people are known to be very sensitive and volatile with the issue of Kashmir.



Australian Government

Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000294

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F ,

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 18 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film is creating hate against the Muslim community and violating the Crimes Act and Racial Discrimination Act. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

Three essential principles underlie the use of the Guidelines:

- the importance of context;
- assessing impact; and
- the 6 classifiable elements.

Context is crucial in determining whether a classifiable element is justified by the story-line or themes, as it sets a framework of understanding. For example, the way in which social issues are dealt with may require a mature or adult perspective. This means that material that falls into a particular classification category in one context, may fall outside it, in another context.

When classifying a film, the Board or an approved classification tool must have regard to the 6 classifiable elements: themes, violence, sex, [coarse] language, drug use, and nudity. By analysing and assessing the impact levels and frequency of occurrence throughout a film of these 6 elements, the Board or a tool is able to determine the appropriate classification for a film (which ranges from G to R 18+).

In addition to determining the classification, the Board or a tool must determine consumer advice for a film. The purpose of consumer advice is to draw attention to only the most impactful and frequent material relating to the 6 classifiable elements. Therefore, not all the content in a film will warrant consumer advice.

On 10 March 2022, the Board classified, *The Kashmir Files*, **R 18+** (Restricted) with consumer advice of **‘high impact themes and violence’**. A film classified R 18+ is legally restricted to persons aged 18

years and over – some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

In the Board's opinion, the depictions of violence and thematic content, including the persecution of Kashmiri Pandits in a dramatised depiction of historical events, were high in impact and warrant restriction to an adult audience. The Classification Code provides that adults should be able to see, hear and play what they want and, in the Board's opinion, the film's content did not reach the threshold to be Refused Classification, which is also outlined in the Code.

If you believe that you, or anyone in your community, are in danger or have been assaulted by someone, please contact law enforcement in your state/area. If the incident is an emergency, please contact Triple Zero (000).

Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

Director

29 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification enquiries](#)
To: [enquiries](#)
Subject: Classification Board - Film - Kashmir Files - Film Inciting Hatred and Violence and Should be Banned [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Saturday, 26 March 2022 12:02:16 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Sat, 2022-03-26 12:02

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Making a complaint

Online form

First name

S47F

Last name

S47F

State or Territory

S4

Phone number

S47F

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

Hi,

I noticed that Cinemas in Australia have been screening The Kashmir Files film and I've honest suggestion in relation to this and hope that this will be addressed or forwarded to the relevant person(s) too.

The film is a propaganda piece bankrolled by the ruling Modi government to enable fuelling of hate towards Muslims, especially from Kashmir to gain populist votes in elections based off the intended sentiments this movie is creating among the majority by brain washing.

The movie has sown such terror that has resulted in an increase in hate crime across the nation and I hope that this movie is not allowed to screen further and is taken down. I've attached credible media resources to this email to allow an unbiased view of the entire situation.

<https://thewire.in/film/as-a-film-the-kashmir-files-is-both-laughable-and-frightening-in-its-relentless-communalism>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/17/kashmir-files-film-modi-anti-muslim-hate-speech>

https://twitter.com/RanaAyyub/status/1504123254315061248?t=SxEBnQFihJPYxYk8O_bvw&s=19

The above link refers to a video where after the screening a youth is seen very audibly spewing hatred and violence to women and the person Rana Ayyub is a globally recognised journalist who writes for Washington Post..

<https://twitter.com/kaushikrj6/status/1504130848743845891?t=Dhs7WFFGJzqOmkC5lwPJ1Q&s=19>

This video calls for massacre of Muslims and goes to show just how polarising and gut wrenching this is. The film you're allowing to be screened is watched for the purpose of inciting this vitriolic normalcy which is scary to envision being propagated through to the Indian Hindu diaspora living overseas.

<https://scroll.in/latest/1019757/in-view-of-the-kashmir-files-delhi-police-asked-to-step-up-security-in-mixed-population-areas>

This article shows the sensitive environment that this movie has created akin to moving a lit matchstick within a hairline of gunpowder.

I've seen my friends being discriminated against and have a fear of life due to this film and it goes against the ethos of Australian values and morality. I hope you take this plight I intend to highlight with utmost seriousness and address it. Please don't be an inadvertent accessory to hate peddling regime.

Kind regards,

S47F



Australian Government

Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000322

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F,

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 26 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film is creating hate against the Muslim community and should not be screened further.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

Three essential principles underlie the use of the Guidelines:

- the importance of context;
- assessing impact; and
- the 6 classifiable elements.

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When classifying a film, the Board or an approved classification tool must have regard to the 6 classifiable elements: themes, violence, sex, [coarse] language, drug use, and nudity. By analysing and assessing the impact levels and frequency of occurrence throughout a film of these 6 elements, the Board or a tool is able to determine the appropriate classification for a film (which ranges from G to R 18+).

In addition to determining the classification, the Board or a tool must determine consumer advice for a film. The purpose of consumer advice is to draw attention to only the most impactful and frequent material relating to the 6 classifiable elements. Therefore, not all the content in a film will warrant consumer advice.

On 10 March 2022, the Board classified, *The Kashmir Files*, **R 18+** (Restricted) with consumer advice of **‘high impact themes and violence’**. A film classified R 18+ is legally restricted to persons aged 18

years and over – some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

In the Board's opinion, the depictions of violence and thematic content, including the persecution of Kashmiri Pandits in a dramatised depiction of historical events, were high in impact and warrant restriction to an adult audience. The Classification Code provides that adults should be able to see, hear and play what they want and, in the Board's opinion, the film's content did not reach the threshold to be Refused Classification, which is also described in the Code.

If you believe that you, or anyone in your community, are in danger or have been assaulted by someone, please contact law enforcement in your state/area. If the incident is an emergency, please contact Triple Zero (000).

Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

19 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification enquiries](#)
To: [enquiries](#)
Subject: Classification Enquiry - Classification Board - Film - Kashmir Files - Film Inciting Hatred and Violence and Should be Banned[SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 23 March 2022 5:55:06 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Wed, 2022-03-23 17:55

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Making a complaint

Online form

First name

S47

Last name

S47F

State or Territory

S47

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

Kashmir files incite hatred and violence against Muslims and should be banned.

It has been shown to recited hatred and violence against muslims in India and risks destroying peaceful co existence in this country.

Kashmir files also violate the crimes act and race discrimination act.



Australian Government

Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000311

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F,

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 18 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film is creating hate against the Muslim community and violating the Crimes Act and Racial Discrimination Act.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

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- the 6 classifiable elements.

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When classifying a film, the Board or an approved classification tool must have regard to the 6 classifiable elements: themes, violence, sex, [coarse] language, drug use, and nudity. By analysing and assessing the impact levels and frequency of occurrence throughout a film of these 6 elements, the Board or a tool is able to determine the appropriate classification for a film (which ranges from G to R 18+).

In addition to determining the classification, the Board or a tool must determine consumer advice for a film. The purpose of consumer advice is to draw attention to only the most impactful and frequent material relating to the 6 classifiable elements. Therefore, not all the content in a film will warrant consumer advice.

On 10 March 2022, the Board classified, *The Kashmir Files*, **R 18+** (Restricted) with consumer advice of **'high impact themes and violence'**. A film classified R 18+ is legally restricted to persons aged 18

years and over – some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

In the Board's opinion, the depictions of violence and thematic content, including the persecution of Kashmiri Pandits in a dramatised depiction of historical events, were high in impact and warrant restriction to an adult audience. The Classification Code provides that adults should be able to see, hear and play what they want and, in the Board's opinion, the film's content did not reach the threshold to be Refused Classification, which is also outlined in the Code.

If you believe that you, or anyone in your community, are in danger or have been assaulted by someone, please contact law enforcement in your state/area. If the incident is an emergency, please contact Triple Zero (000).

Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

14 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification enquiries](#)
To:
Subject: Classification Enquiry - Classification Board - Request for Information (RFI) Board Report - Film - Kashmir Files [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 18 March 2022 7:56:03 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Fri, 2022-03-18 19:55

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Making a complaint

Online form

First name

S47

Last name

S47F

State or Territory

S47

Phone number

S47F

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

Hi,

I am writing to you in regards screening of 'The Kashmir Files' documentary which is being shown in cinemas across the country..

I would like to inform the board that I have serious reservations with the content and outcome of the film, and want to see the report.

It is based on lies and is not related actual facts at all. I request you to reject classification for The Kashmir Files.

Applicant

ATL Media Ltd

File number

T22/0576

Classification number

296337



Australian Government

Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000293

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 18 March 2022 regarding the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film should be refused classification, as well as your request for a copy of the decision report for the film.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

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- assessing impact; and
- the 6 classifiable elements.

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When classifying a film, the Board or an approved classification tool must have regard to the 6 classifiable elements: themes, violence, sex, [coarse] language, drug use, and nudity. By analysing and assessing the impact levels and frequency of occurrence throughout a film of these 6 elements, the Board or a tool is able to determine the appropriate classification for a film (which ranges from G to R 18+).

In addition to determining the classification, the Board or a tool must determine consumer advice for a film. The purpose of consumer advice is to draw attention to only the most impactful and frequent material relating to the 6 classifiable elements. Therefore, not all the content in a film will warrant consumer advice.

On 10 March 2022, the Board classified, *The Kashmir Files*, **R 18+** (Restricted) with consumer advice of **‘high impact themes and violence’**. A film classified R 18+ is legally restricted to persons aged 18

years and over – some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

In the Board's opinion, the depictions of violence and thematic content, including the persecution of Kashmiri Pandits in a dramatised depiction of historical events, were high in impact and warrant restriction to an adult audience. The Classification Code provides that adults should be able to see, hear and play what they want and, in the Board's opinion, the film's content did not reach the threshold to be Refused Classification, which is also outlined in the Code.

If you believe that you, or anyone in your community, are in danger or have been assaulted by someone, please contact law enforcement in your state/area. If the incident is an emergency, please contact Triple Zero (000).

Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback. I have attached a copy of the Board's decision report to this reply.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

14 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification enquiries](#)
To: [enquiries](#)
Subject: Classification Enquiry - Classification Board - Film - Kashmir Files - Wants Film To Be Banned In Australia [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Saturday, 19 March 2022 12:08:52 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Sat, 2022-03-19 12:08

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Making a complaint

Online form

First name

S47

Last name

S47

State or Territory

S47

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

Hi,

I feel disturbed at the purported content of recently released Indian in Australia 'The Kashmir Files' and the anti Muslim, anti Kashmiri Muslim feelings it is arousing among the communities. Like NZ Govt I want Govt of Australia to ban the movie in Australia after full re-evaluation. Australia is a land of multiple communities with religious tolerance - unlike India where Modi is turning Secular India into Majoritarian Hindu country in which Christians and Muslims are considered second class citizens.

Thank you



Australian Government
Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000288

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F

Thank you for your online enquiry of 19 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film should be banned for inciting anti-Muslim sentiment.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

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In addition to determining the classification, the Board or a tool must determine consumer advice for a film. The purpose of consumer advice is to draw attention to only the most impactful and frequent material relating to the 6 classifiable elements. Therefore, not all the content in a film will warrant consumer advice.

On 10 March 2022, the Board classified, *The Kashmir Files*, **R 18+** (Restricted) with consumer advice of **‘high impact themes and violence’**. A film classified R 18+ is legally restricted to persons aged 18 years and over – some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

In the Board's opinion, the depictions of violence and thematic content, including the persecution of Kashmiri Pandits in a dramatised depiction of historical events, were high in impact and warrant restriction to an adult audience. The Classification Code provides that adults should be able to see, hear and play what they want and, in the Board's opinion, the film's content did not reach the threshold to be Refused Classification.

If you believe that you, or anyone in your community, are in danger or have been assaulted by someone, please contact law enforcement in your state/area. If the incident is an emergency, please contact Triple Zero (000).

Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

14 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: classification.no-reply@govcms.gov.au on behalf of [Australian Classification](#)
To: [Classification Branch Applications](#)
Subject: Classification Application - Classification Board - Complaint - Film - Kashmir Files - Film is Inciting Violence [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 18 March 2022 8:49:45 PM

A webform submission has been received via the Australian Classification website Contact us form.

Form submitted on Fri, 2022-03-18 20:49

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:

Applying to have a film, computer game or publication classified

Online form

First name

S4

Last name

S47

State or Territory

S47

Email

S47F

I would like to receive a response

Yes

Your enquiry

'Kashmir files': This Bollywood production is inciting violence by right wing elements of the Indian community towards minority group. The content is heavily comprised of hate speech and inciting views that would amount to criminal conduct under Australian law.



Australian Government
Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000290

s47F

s47F

Dear s47F,

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 18 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film is creating hate against the Muslim community and inciting criminal conduct.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

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Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

14 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification

From: s47F
To: [enquiries](#)
Subject: Re: Australian Classification: Classification Board - Film - Kashmir Files - Wants Film To Be RC In Australia [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 18 March 2022 7:06:54 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot_20220318-190519_WhatsApp.jpg](#)

Im also attaching evidence from NZ government.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: enquiries@classification.gov.au on behalf of Australian Classification
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2022 7:04:51 PM
To: s47F
Subject: Australian Classification: Contact us form submission [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
 Thank you for submitting an enquiry to Australian Classification (www.classification.gov.au).

A copy of your form submission has been provided below.

Form submitted on Fri, 2022-03-18 19:04

Submitted values are:

My enquiry is about:
 Making a complaint

Online form

First name
 s47F

Last name
 s47F

State or Territory
 s47

Phone number
 s47F

Email
 s47F

I would like to receive a response
 Yes

Your enquiry
 Dear members,

Australia is multicultural society.
 We citizens are against to racial discrimination and hate.
 It is so sad you have approved to screen "the kashmir files" across australia. This movie is creating so much disharmony and chaos in the community.
 This movie is creating hate against muslim community. Nz already banned this movie. Im attaching response from NZ board and ministry. NZ wants to stop christchurch incidents not to repeat again. Hence they banned the movie. I request you to kindly stop screening of this movie.

Applicant

ATL Media Ltd

File number

T22/0576

Classification number

296337

Thanks
 s47F



Australian Government
Classification Board

Reference no: EC22-000292

S47F

Email: S47F

Dear S47F

Film – The Kashmir Files

Thank you for your online enquiry of 18 March 2022 regarding the classification of the film *The Kashmir Files*, and your concern that the film is creating hate against the Muslim community.

When making decisions, the Board or an approved classification tool applies the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (the Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the Classification of Films (the Guidelines), all of which are available on the Australian Classification website: www.classification.gov.au/About/Pages/Legislation.aspx

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Thank you for taking the time to write; the Board appreciates your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Director

14 April 2022

Released under the FOI Act 1982 by the Classification Board,
Australian Classification