

File No: T18/2673



Australian Government

**Classification Board** 

# **Decision Report**

Classification decisions are made in accordance with the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* (the Act), the National Classification Code and the Classification Guidelines.

### **Production Details:**

Title:	LADIES IN BLACK
Alternate titles:	
Producer/s:	ALLANAH ZITSERMAN / SUE MILLIKEN
Director/s:	BRUCE BERESFORD
Year of Production:	2017
Duration:	109 MINUTES
Version:	ORIGINAL
Format:	DCP
Country/ies of origin:	AUSTRALIA
Language/s:	ENGLISH
Application type:	FPE2
Applicant:	SONY PICTURES RELEASING P/L

### Dates:

Date application received by the Classification Board: 09 July 2018 Date of decision: 11 July 2018

### **Decision:**

Classification:	PG
Consumer advice:	Mild coarse language

### Synopsis:

Ladies in Black is an Australian drama, set in Sydney in the summer of 1959/60, in which suburban schoolgirl Lisa takes a summer job at a large department store and works with a group of saleswomen who open her eyes to a world beyond her sheltered life.

### **Reasons for the Decision:**

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 a PG classification as, in accordance with item 6 of the films table of the Code, it cannot be recommended for viewing by persons who are less than 15 years of age without the guidance of their parents or guardians.

Pursuant to the Guidelines, this film is classified PG as the impact of the classifiable elements is mild. Material classified PG may contain material which some children find confusing or upsetting, and may require the guidance of parents or guardians. It is not recommended for viewing by persons less than 15 years of age without guidance from parents or guardians.

The classifiable element is language that is mild in viewing impact.

The examples described below do not represent an exhaustive list of the content that caused the film to be classified PG. The times given are approximations.

### LANGUAGE

Coarse language should be mild and infrequent, and be justified by context.

The film contains mild coarse language in the form of the word "pissed". The use of this coarse language is infrequent and justified by context.

At 19 minutes, while discussing the prospect of going on a date with a man, Fay tells a friend, "He'll get more and more pissed then crawl all over me like a mountain goat."

In the Board's opinion, the overall impact of coarse language within the context of this film is mild and it can therefore, be accommodated within the PG classification.

### OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED OR NOTED

The Board notes that the film contains themes, violence and sexual references that can be accommodated within a lower classification.

### Decision:

This film is classified PG with consumer advice of mild coarse language.

### Classification Board use only

Names of panel members constituted for decision:

s47F - personal privacy; Senior Panellist s47F - personal privacy; Lead Classifier s47F - personal privacy; s47F - personal privacy;

Details of opinions (including minority views):

Unanimous.

A senior panellist has confirmed that the application considered was valid under the Act.

A senior panellist has confirmed that all members constituting the Board for this decision have considered the application and that this Decision Report is a true and accurate reflection of the Board's decision and any minority opinions.

Decision signed off by a senior panellist.

Decision signed off by Director ......Date ...../.....Date ...../

(required for all enforcement applications, commercial RC decisions and non-ISP ACMA RC decisions)

FOI 23-070



**Australian Government** 

### **Classification Board**

File No: **T18/2673** Classification No: **280434** 

Attention:\$47F - personal privacySONY PICTURES RELEASING P/LGPO BOX 3342SYDNEY NSW 2001

### **CLASSIFICATION CERTIFICATE FOR A FILM**

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995

I refer to an application under section 14 of the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games)* Act 1995 (the Act) for the classification of the undermentioned film. I certify that in accordance with the Act the decision of the Classification Board for this film is detailed below:

Title:	LADIES IN BLACK
Running time:	109 MINUTES
Producer:	ALLANAH ZITSERMAN / SUE MILLIKEN
Director:	BRUCE BERESFORD
Production company:	LUMILA FILMS
Country of origin:	AUSTRALIA
Classification:	PG
Consumer Advice:	Mild coarse language
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Classified films and associated advertising are required to display the classification markings and consumer advice as applicable. The requirements are set out in the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) (Markings and Consumer Advice) Determination 2014.* The Determination is available at www.classification.gov.au or by contacting the Classification Branch on (02) 9289 7100.

Certified



Date: 11 July 2018

# TITLE (and Known Alternative Titles)

LADIES IN BLACK

### **CLASSIFICATION: PG**

### **Revocation of decision:**

Under section 21A of the Act, if the Board is of the opinion that a classified interactive film contains contentions material (whether activated through use of a code or otherwise) that was not brought to the Board's attention before the classification was made and if the Board had been aware of the material it would have given the film a different classification, the Board must revoke the classification.

### **Review of Decision:**

Section 42 of the Act provides that certain persons, including the applicant for classification, may apply to the Classification Review Board for a review of the decision of the Classification Board. Generally, an application for review must be made within 30 days after the applicant received notice of the decision (section 43). More information about the review process is available at www.classification.gov.au or by contacting the Secretary to the Classification Review Board on (02) 9289 7100.

# Application for Classification of a Film for Public Exhibition

This form is to be used for an application for classification of a film for public exhibition under section 14 of the *Classification* (*Publications, Films and Computer Games*) Act 1995 (the Act).

## LADIES IN BLACK

Applicant: SONY PICTURES RELEASING P/L Contact: s47F - personal privacy Phone: s47F - personal privacy Email: s47F - personal privacy@SPE.SONY.COM

# Details of the filmFile numberTBAFormat:DCPTitle:LADIES IN BLACKAlternate title:Producer:ALLANAH ZITSERMAN, SUE MILLIKENDirector:BRUCE BERESFORDProduction Co:LUMILA FILMSLanguage:ENGLISHCountry of origin:AUSTRALIAYear of production:2018

### Duration

Duration to be classified: 109 minutes

Previously classified duration:

### **Expected release date**

Expected Australian national 20/09/2018

release date (if available):

### Fees

Prescribed fee: \$2,180.00

Payment method: Existing account balance

### Declaration

- I submit all material at my own risk and expense
- I am aware that the application for classification is not valid until I have supplied the Classification Board with a copy of the film, prescribed classification fee and an adequate synopsis of the film.
- I authorise the Classification Board to debit my, or the company's, account for the full value of the classification fee. I acknowledge that the Classification Board has the right to determine the actual fee for the application, which may be different to that estimated in this application.
- I confirm that the information contained in the application is not false or misleading in any way.

By post to:	OR	By courier to:
The Director		The Director
Classification Board		Classification Board
Locked Bag 3,		Level 5, 23-33 Mary St
HAYMARKET NSW 1240		<b>SURRY HILLS NSW 2010</b>

The Classification Board will destroy the supplied copy of the film 90 days after a classification decision is made, unless arrangements are made to retrieve the copy within 90 days (at your own cost).

### Privacy Notice – Privacy Act 1988

The Department of Communications and the Arts is collecting personal information on this form to process an application for classification. This is authorised by s 14(1) of the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995*.

If the personal information of the applicant and/or individual is not provided, the department may not be able to process the application.

The Department places some or all of this information on the National Classification Database and gives some or all of this information to the Classification Board and, on review, to the Classification Review Board.

For more information about the Department's privacy practices, including how to access or correct your personal information or make a complaint, see the privacy policy at <u>www.classification.gov.au</u> or contact our Privacy Contact Officer:

Privacy Contact Officer Department of Communications and the Arts GPO Box 2154 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Call: 02 6271 1277

Email: foi@communications.gov.au

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Set in the summer of 1959, when the impact of European migration and the rise of women's liberation is about to change Australia forever, a shy schoolgirl (Lisa) takes a summer job at the prestigious Sydney department store, Goode's. There she meets the "ladies in black", who will change her life forever. Beguiled and influenced by Magda, the vivacious manager of the high-fashion floor, and befriended by fellow sales ladies Patty and Fay, Lisa is awakened to a world of possibilities. As Lisa grows from a bookish schoolgirl to a glamorous and positive young woman, she herself becomes a catalyst for a cultural change in everyone's lives.



Title:	LADIES IN BLACK	File Number T18/2673
Producer(s):	ALLANAH ZITSERMAN / SUE MILLIKEN	Panel Member s47F - personal privacy Application Type FPE2
		Format DCP
Director(s):	BRUCE BERESFORD	Duration 109
		Version ORIGINAL
Applicant:	SONY PICTURES RELEASING P/L	Country AUSTRALIA
FILMS/COM	PUTER GAMES	Language ENGLISH
Classification:	Pq GPG M MA 15+ R 18+ X 18+ RC	Production Date
Consumer Adv	ice: Mild course larguage	Viewing Room $T1$
	PP	Viewing Date
		11/7/18
Clas	sification matrix (films/computer games only)	

	None	G	PG	M	MA15+	R18+	RC
Themes		~					
Violence	10	1					🗆 1(a)
Sex		/				/	
Language						/	□ 1(b)
Drug Use	1				/		
Nudity	1						□ 1(c)

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Sue

s47F - personal privacy Signature:

Date: 11 /7 / 17



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huse at work. looks at dress. 20-50 150 gunese. a. sele at 75. gunées. Mrs Williams - at dector. 21-51. aster hew many times do you have SC (B) (Ben) Blandy hell . 123.00) LD. at home tard folls off. braf view of butterds. -Frenk hame early. - Fay with night .dress. -. 23.32. 24.00 Fay told 5 Fronh that he will take it aff- - fell onle Ged 24.26 SR (0) Lisa reading poetry in hed. Petty in late with mule or face. 24-57 25.22. hysterectoms 23.40 Eag asking for East durie worned about husband. Left work £6 00 TO early. Northerman phone.

Pales & Fay ceffee. 42.37 Magda talls live deat Redy wanting a Australian zolfrand. Lesa. thut about Fay. 44.46 Mr Rider & Miss Cartanget Magda inistes Fay to dimer de her home... here gets a punh dress for 46 41. 48 53 Christmes - doesn't like pinke. Ed gures meny to write + Lise Patty creary. and mether goes 50.26 Magda ports with guests. Fry tellows dank going to Magda 51.15 ports. Lise des guses. allering dress. 52.20 We arrives at Magda and Auds Jos is guin and cult 54.10 54.33 aten bamb in it. Fay ornwes ad Magda porty 53.48 Cludy intrage 20 ft 34 Fays

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52 73.25

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From:	enquiries@classification.gov.au
Sent:	Tuesday, 27 November 2018 10:03 PM
To:	enquiries
Subject:	COB Enquiry Response [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

This feedback was received via the enquiry form of the Classification Website.

(Do you require a response?) In marking this box, I confirm that I have read this notice and understand that my personal information may be collected, used and disclosed by the Department of Communications and the Arts for the purposes described above. : True.

Title : <sup>447-9</sup>. Name : <sup>547F -</sup> personal privacy. Email : **S47F -** personal privacy. Postal Address : n/a. Suburb : n/a. State : <sup>547F -</sup> personal privacy Postcode : n/a. Phone number : n/a.

Enquiry Details:

In What Capacity are you making this enquiry? : <sup>s47F - personal privacy</sup> Other : . Category of enquiry : <sup>s47F - personal privacy</sup> What would you like to tell us : s47F - personal privacy

# s47F - personal privacy

s47F - personal privacy

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	s47F - personal privacy Tuesday, 25 June 2019 1:37 PM <sup>#7F - personal privacy</sup> s47F - personal privacy Ladies in Black - URGENT - purchase [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance:	High
	UNCLASSIFIED
Hi <sup>447F - person</sup> ,	
As per our discussion about the c film, <i>Ladies in Black</i> , s47F - per purchased ASAP as a I have arran	
Ta, <sup>547F - per</sup>	



s47F - personal privacy Director / Classification Board Department of Communications and the Arts P +61 <sup>s47F - personal privacy</sup> M +61 <sup>s47F - personal privacy</sup>

### Classification Matrix (Amended)

Decision:	This film is classified PG with consumer advice of mild coarse language.
Details Of Opinions (Including Minority Opinions):	Unanimous.
Voting Details:	
Voting Breakdown:	
Certificate Number:	280434
Certificate Date:	11/07/2018
CLASSIFICATION MATRIX	
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CLASSIFICATION MATRIX Classification Matrix Themes	G
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FOI 23-070

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NEW - Film - Pub Exh - 61-120 mins	11/	07/2018						
Application Type:	De	cision Da	ate:					
SONY PICTURES RELEASING P/L	DCI	Р						
Applicant:	Me	dia Type	÷					
LADIES IN BLACK	No							
Production:	Su	spended	#1 #1					

Application has been unlocked.	26/07/2019 3:56:46 PM	s47F - personal privacy	Yes
Application details updated	10/07/2018 8:44:13 AM	s47F - personal privacy	Yes
Application details updated	9/07/2018 5:41:06 PM	s47F - personal privacy	Yes
Show page: 1 (Total Records: 4)	Expo	ort To Excel Record	s Per Page: 10 N