

WATCHING A **NOT-PG 13** MOVIE WITH PARENTS

RAFIDAH RAHMAN

Watching movies with parents is a great way of spending time with them and a splendid excuse to simply unwind. Okay, that's probably only when you're watching *The Lion King* together.

I mean, we're not five anymore. We're young adults and thus, inevitably a wide array of movie genres would attract our young adult eyes. Most families have regular movie nights, with the parents sternly insisting upon it to ensure quality family time. Most of the times, we are well aware about what kind of movies we're going to watch.

So, what really happens when we do actually sit down to watch *that* kind of a movie with our parents? As of yet, I have gone through this rather embarrassing experience a number of times which is equal parts daunting and mirthful. I still die a little inside when I remember the very first instance. I was five and fondly remember my brother getting a *Titanic* video tape for our movie night. Everyone at our home was thrilled to watch it, supposedly the best movie of that year. So my parents, brothers and I huddled on the sofa. Frankly, it was the most extravagant movie we'd seen with frequent wows and gasps appreciating every bit of the beauty the film was until, you guessed it, the painting scene. I still chuckle when I get flashbacks at the way my parents looked at each other with a jolt of disbelief and how my father suddenly rose from his seat. He was happily searching for the remote to switch the whole thing off with my mother praying to have had more than a pair of hands to have covered all of our eyes.

And that's it. We never got to finish the movie that day. Of course all of us watched *The Titanic* a gazillion times afterwards, but still, I can't help but laugh about how awkward that experience was.

Another such event happened a few years later when my cousin, uncle and I sat down to watch *Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle*. Back then, we couldn't really watch trailers to check before watching it with the parents. We lived on DVDs and to be fair, from the cover we really didn't think it'd be a "mature" movie. My cousin and I thought to ourselves, as long as it is not an *American Pie* movie, we're safe. We couldn't have been more wrong. The movie was hilarious when it started until Harold and Kumar met Freakshow's wife. My cousin and I panicked at the scene and agreed with a mutual eye contact that it was best we left the room immediately before my uncle grounded us for life.

From that day onwards, my cousin and I have vowed to never watch a movie with our parents without proof watching it at least twice and maybe once more for satisfaction. I still get hiccups while thinking about those ill-fated incidents and yet I'm always left astounded at how understanding and cool my parents are. They never overreacted like I'd perceived, but instead would silently pretend to be ignorant to retain the normalcy. So lucky to have them, really.

Rafidah Rahman is a teeny-tiny Hulk, she's always angry and she's always hungry. A cynical dreamer and a food enthusiast, she's your everyday entertainment. Correspond with her at rafidah_topaz@hotmail.com or facebook.com/rafidah.rahman.39



Move over, Simeone, auntie is here.

WHAT IT'S LIKE WATCHING SPORTS WITH PARENTS

TAHMEED CHAUDHURY

Being a sports fan, watching my favourite team or country play gets me thrilled and excited. The highly anticipated games are what we sports fans live for and we enjoy the tense encounters with exhilarated minds, nervy temperaments and full concentrations. We watch the games alone or with friends and are at times joined by seasonal supporters: our parents.

Although their rare support and passion for sports is often mesmerizing, they can also be deemed as hysterical, entertaining and annoying. They will make their presence felt and will make hilarious comments and mistaken judgments that will leave your jaws dropped.

Here's what you can expect your parent(s) to turn into while watching sports:

The commentator:

Commentating throughout the length of the game is a must. They will be vociferous and will voice their approvals and disapprovals with every move the players make. Often they scream 'six' every time a batsman hits a ball into the air or 'goal' every time a footballer takes a shot. Pronunciation of the lengthy names of players/managers may also give you a good laugh. I recall a friend saying his mom referred to Joachim Löw as 'Joshim'.

The one who takes wrong judgments to the next level:

Complying with rules is not a parent's best strength. Personal opinions will take centre stage. It is highly likely that you will hear your mom cry 'out!' even when the ball drops into the ground before being taken by the fielder or you may witness your dad demanding a penalty despite the foul being made way

outside the penalty box. Oh, and also in football, the expectations of red cards being given out is way too high.

The master tactician:

Setting out tactical plans and strategies for every event is also in their blood. In football, when a free kick or any other set piece is about to be taken, you may hear ridiculous ideas like 'place all 10 other players next to the goal keeper to prevent a goal' or in cricket 'keep all the fielders in the boundary line to stop the six'. Other ludicrous schemes are also proposed.

The one who goes on a nostalgia trip:

You may notice that your parents have not forgotten about players from their generation, such that they may expect them to keep on playing forever. Questions like "Where is Maradona? Why is he not playing? Is that his son Messi?" when Argentina plays are far too common from moms and dads.

Supporter of the wrong team:

This is particularly common in football especially when the supporting team dons the away kit. Let's say your parent supports England who wears white, and they play Germany who also wears white. As Germany is the home team, England is resorted to wearing the red away kit. This stirs up a confusion which may lead to your parent cheering and supporting the wrong team and celebrating their goals.

This article is definitely not pointed towards those parents who are regular viewers of sports rather it's about the seasonal viewers of the games who try to blend in with sport fanatics and make a laughing stock out of themselves. Nevertheless, watching sports with parents will most likely entertain you and make you fall off a chair laughing.

