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Violence in Movies and How It Affects Teenagers: An Annotated Bibliography

Bushman, Brad J., et al. "Gun Violence Trends in Movies." *Pediatrics*, vol. 132, no. 6, Dec. 2013, pp. 1014-1018. EBSCO*host*, doi:10.1542/peds.2013-1600.

Brad Bushman et al., accredited PhD holders except one, conducted a study on the presence of gun violence since 1950 till 2010 to see by how much it has increased. They find that violence in movies has “more than doubled” and that movies that are pg 13, which is more common for teenagers to watch, has exceeded R rated movies on the amount of gun violence they contain (1017). This ties into my issue by showing that there has been an increase in violence in movies which may have an affect on the violence among teenagers. At the end of this research they say “The mere presence of guns in these films may increase the aggressive behavior of youth” (1017). I plan on looking more into this claim to see if it is true.

Ciacu, Nicoleta and Alina Bratu. "Television and the Social Effects on Adolescents.” *Communication & Marketing / Revista De Comunicare Si Marketing*, vol. 4, no. 6, Mar. 2013, pp. 17-30. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.uvu.edu/login?url=http://search. ebscohost .com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=ufh&AN=91920128&site=eds-live.

The Nicoleta Ciacu and Alina Bratu, both faculty of communication, conducted research on teenage viewing time of television with an emphasis on how the violent content would affect their behavior. They found that there was a correlation between time and content that affected the behavior of teenagers in a negative way, also increasing “the potential to cause violence in interpersonal relationships that they establish” (30). In connection with my research, even though the focus was on television, it shows that there is an increase in violent behavior among teenagers when exposed to violence in media.

Gosselt, Jordy F., et al. "Effects of Media Ratings on Children and Adolescents: A Litmus Test of the Forbidden Fruit Effect." *Journal of Communication*, vol. 62, no. 6, Dec. 2012, p. 1084. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.uvu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/ login.aspx? direct=true&db=edb&AN=84187600&site=eds-live.

Jordy Gosselt et al., faculty of Behavioral Sciences, conducted an experiment on children and teenagers by using the cover of different types of media (i.e. movies, tv shows, etc.) to depict interest based on what pictogram was displayed. Through this study, they took the subjects and showed them the images; following the experiment the conclusion was formed that the media which contained graphic images were not more appealing because of looks (16). With this conclusion it helps with my question by proving that teenagers are not, by nature, drawn to view violent material, indicating that there are more factors then just viewing violence that affect violent behavior.

Markey, Patrick M., et al. "Violent Movies and Severe Acts of Violence: Sensationalism Versus Science." Human Communication Research, vol. 41, no. 2, Apr. 2015, pp. 155-173. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1111/hcre.12046.

The authors, all professors of Psychology at their respected institutions, collected information regarding the affects that gun violence in movies have on homicide, and aggravated assault. They conclude that movies do not play a major role in violent crimes, but they might have an affect less aggressive behavior like “bullying, spreading gossip, minor fights at school, pushing and shoving, or hurling insults (169). With the support of charts and graphs, outside sources, and evaluating almost 3 decades of statistics, they have come to an unbiased conclusion, but leave room for other possibilities. This source helps answer part of my research question by evaluating what affect does violence in movies actually have in violent behaviors.

Price, Joseph, et al. "What Matters in Movie Ratings? Cross-Country Differences in How Content Influences Mature Movie Ratings." *Journal of Children and Media*, vol. 8, no. 3, July 2014, pp. 240-252. EBSCO*host*, doi:10.1080/17482798.2014.880359.

Price, a professor at BYU, and the other accredited authors, collected data on over 1,000 international movies ratings and content, to find what is permitted in the different rating from many English-speaking countries. They come to conclusion in this article that most parents don’t agree with these rating and are justified with how little violence affects the rating, stating that this is particularly troubling because of the increase in aggression that violence can cause (249). This research will help me in answering my question by providing information how the rating system works and what can be in movies that teenagers would be watching. Over all this source is full in facts and research that is credible and relevant.

Salas-Wright, Christopher P., et al. "Trends in Fighting and Violence among Adolescents in the United States, 2002-2014." *American Journal of Public Health*, vol. 107, no. 6, June 2017, pp. 977-982. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.uvu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/ login.aspx?direct=true&db=s3h&AN=123016481&site=eds-live.

This research, conducted by multiple people, all of whom have PhDs, focus on the trend of fitting among teenagers for the years of 2001 through 2014. This research, separated by category of race, measured how much of the population of teenagers were participating in violent activities, finding that there is an overall decrease in violent activates of 29% since 2001 (979). This research does not focus on cause of violent behavior but proves valuable in its measurement of occurrence of that behavior. Thus helping towards comparing the decrease of violent behavior to the amount of violence in movies today.

Saleem, Noshina, et al. "Violent Movies and Criminal Behavior of Delinquents." *Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences (PJSS)*, vol. 33, no. 2, Dec. 2013, pp. 243-254. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.uvu.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=sih&AN=97295850&site=eds-live.

The Authors of this research, of whom are professors and lectures of mass communication in Pakistan, conducted a study of how exposure violence in media over time would affect teenager’s behavior. Through their research they conclude that “exposure to action/violent movies was responsible for juveniles’ delinquency” (253). This is an incredibly bold claim comparing to most every other article that I have, which leads me to belief there may be some bias. This research was also conducted with a focus on teenagers in Pakistan, thus having a narrow conclusion. This research this help with my issue as they have many charts and data but in all I will need to consult the other sources as well.

Worth, Keilah A., et al. "Exposure of US Adolescents to Extremely Violent Movies." *Pediatrics*, vol. 122, no. 2, Aug. 2008, pp. 306-312. EBSCO*host*, doi:10.1542/peds.2007-1096.

Keilah Worth et al., of whom are accreted scholars and medical professionals, conducted a study on the exposure of violent moves to adolescents, with a focus on class, race, and schooling. In this research they find that 12% of adolescents from the ages of 10-14 were exposed to these violent movies. While this research is fascinating it doesn’t do much in helping with my issue, with its focus on exposure and not the affect that it has, it only provides a few statistics that may help in understanding which of the different classes, race, and schooling level teenagers are more likely to view violent movies. With my issue being focused on behavior this will provide minimal assistance.