

5-Digit ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_



# Television Violence Analysis

## PURPOSE

How much violence is a part of the media you watch? Have you become “desensitized” to violent acts or behavior in your favorite types of media? There may be more violence occurring than you realize. This assignment will have you analyze one “show” (TV program, cartoon, movie, etc.). Viewing time should be at least 60 minutes in length. Programming that does not qualify for this analysis would include sport broadcasts (including extreme sports and high school/collegiate/professional sports) and local/national news programs.

## HYPOTHESIS

How much violence do you think exists in the show you routinely watch? What types/acts of violence do you think occur most frequently in your show?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## DATA COLLECTION

Name of Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Show (movie, sitcom; action, comedy, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Running Time (minutes): \_\_\_\_\_ How often do you watch this show? \_\_\_\_\_

Censorship Rating (circle rating): **G** **PG** **PG-13** **R** OR



How many violent acts occurred in the show (physical only)? Tally: \_\_\_\_\_

How many threats occurred in the show (verbal/body lang. only)? Tally: \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of violent acts/threats were committed (i.e. name calling, hitting, gunshots, crude jokes, hurtful sarcasm, etc.)? List all that occurred during the show.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who committed more violent acts/threats, the “good guys” or the “bad guys”? Explain why you think this was. If there were no good guys or bad guys, what were the personality characteristics of those who were violent and those who were not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Were any non-violent strategies used to resolve conflicts (i.e. negotiation, compromise, teamwork, problem solving, discussion, etc.)? If yes, describe the circumstances and the technique used. What resulted from the non-violent resolution? If no, explain why you think this was.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think violence was “necessary”, based on the storyline of the show you watched? That is, why did the show’s writers use violence when violence is truly never *necessary* or needed to solve real conflict? If your show had little to no violence in it, why do you think some shows do use violence?

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Do you think the storyline would have been the same if the amount of violence you witnessed in the show was reversed (if your show was very violent, would it have been the same if non-violent strategies would have been used and vice versa for shows with little to no violence)? Explain why or why not, citing examples from your show to support your reasoning.

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## ANALYSIS & CONCLUSION

1. What did you learn about the prevalence of violence in the show you watched? Was there more or less violence than you thought before analyzing your shows? OR Did your analysis prove or disprove your hypothesis? Cite specific examples from your show to help support your justification.

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2. What role do you think parents/guardians/adults need to play in preventing children from viewing violence in media (Remember, *media* includes movies, TV shows, cartoons, video games, websites, books/magazines, comics, etc.)? Why should children, especially young children, be kept from viewing violent content?

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3. Think back over your childhood to the present. What kind of discussion(s) have your parents/guardians had with you regarding violence in media? Cite/Describe what was said or discussed. If you have not had a discussion about media violence with parents/guardians, explain why you think this is as it is an important topic for families to discuss.

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4. Reflecting back on your hypothesis and the results of your data analysis, what would you conclude about the amount of violence witnessed in the show you watched? Was there more than you anticipated or less? Did your perspective change about the amount of violence prevalent in your show? If so, how? If not, why do you think that is?

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