

US History
Mr. Jolly

Film Permission Slip

Dear parent/guardian:

Films play a significant role in my classes. Like theater, they have great merit as works of art, as illustrations of popular culture and social ills, and as a powerful medium for a director's ideas and vision. In my mind, they are worthy of close study in and of themselves. I also use film to help illustrate and illuminate topics for my students; indeed, "comparing and contrasting" films with the literature which we read or the historical events we study has always been very popular and has resulted in some of the more thoughtful work that students have produced.

We are currently studying American involvement in Vietnam. We've heard some powerful personal accounts from Vietnam veterans about their experiences in the war. We've listened to songs about how the war impacted those who served. Students have read Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*, an excellent book of stories based upon the time he fought in the war in 1967-68. To help illuminate the emotions which he and many other soldiers felt, I'd like our class to watch the Academy Award-winning film *The Deer Hunter*. This film is rated R.

I respect that there may be some parents who disapprove of having their sons/daughters view R-rated material. As well, Windsor School District policy states that parents/guardians must give positive permission for any student to view any such films. Please bear in mind, however, that in these cases the student will not get the benefit of group viewing, daily and concluding discussion of the film, and collaborative analysis & writing around those topics.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me via email at pjolly@wusd.org.

"My son/daughter, _____, (name)

- may
- may not

...view *The Deer Hunter* in class."

_____ (signature of parent/guardian)