

Officer Comments – Crass: The Sound of Free Speech

Title	Synopsis provided by the Applicant	Applicant's Recommended Rating	Link to Screener	Password (if applicable).	Officer Comments
Crass: The Sound of Free Speech	<p>Celebratory, raw and shocking, this documentary film is as close to the story of the anarcho-punk band as you're going to get.</p> <p>Crass were an art collective and punk band that formed in Essex in 1977, and disbanded in 1984. They promoted anarchism and a movement of resistance that awakened and appealed to many, inspiring many bands and artists ever since and seem to be more relevant now than ever.</p> <p>Artist and director Brandon Spivey tells the story of Crass' Reality Asylum, and the inspiration behind the record, with interviews with Crass co-founders Steve Ignorant and Penny Rimbaud, and Small Wonder record label owner Pete Stennett.</p> <p>The film also expands on the narrative of anarchism and a broken system and touches upon subjects such as the class war, sexual abuse carried out the church and the Magdalene Laundries in Ireland.</p> <p>Made with the blessing of Crass members, it dives into 1970's Britain; the birth of punk and the formation of Crass, with an in-depth look at their art, music and ethos and its impact on those who were trying to make sense of a brutal hostile society they had no place in.</p>	15	<p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p>	N/A	<p>00:08:00 Shocking and disturbing imagery including piles of bodies and discussion of sensitive topics – religion, Church involvement in Magdalene laundries, reform schools, paedophilia.</p> <p>00:27:00 Music video including imagery of women accused of being Nazi sympathisers having their heads shaved.</p> <p>1:00:00 Very explicit video and images of genocide, people being carried and thrown into pits, dead bodies, burning crosses, burnt and scarred children, nuclear bomb blasts, damaged and deformed faces. Video background for performance poetry. (7 mins)</p> <p>1:08:00 Testimony of man abused as a child by Catholic priest (6 mins)</p> <p>Vast majority of film comprises of interviews with the band members and other artists.</p> <p>Consider 18 certification as a more suitable rating due to shocking imagery.</p>