Coms 133

Documentary Film

CSUS - Spring 2022

*La Haine*

Credits & Questions

Year: 1995

Running Time: 1:38

Not Rated

Directed & Written by: Mathieu Kassovitz

Music by: Assassin

Cinematography by: Pierre Aim

Edited by: Mathieu Kassovitz & Scott Stevenson

Production Design: Giuseppe Ponturo

Cast (partial):

Vincent Cassel…………………………Vinz

Hubert Koundé……………………….Hubert

Said Taghmaoul………………………Said

Abdel Ahmed Ghili………………….Abdel

Solo………………………………………..Santo

Joseph Momo………………………..Homme standard

Heloise Rauth………………………..Sarah

Rywka Wajsbrot……………………Grand-mere Vinz

Olga Abrego………………………… Tante Vinz

Cut Killer……………………………….D.J.

Questions

1. Using the part 1 lecture on violence, document the scenes in the film that depict physical violence and decide on each if they are “sanitized,” partially “sanitized,” or not “sanitized” at all. Explain in detail.
2. When we use the word violence, the first thing that comes to most of our minds is *physical* violence. However, there are other types of violence; emotional, verbal, situational, etc. I would even say that a film can be acted, shot, and edited in a way that can feel violent. This film has all those qualities. See how many of all the above types of violence you can document in this film and give detailed examples. (Note: If this question is on the *Final* it will be worth more than 10 points.)
3. The French police were very upset with this film. They felt that it was anti-police. However, when Kassovitz was asked about their reaction he said that was not his intention. In fact, he said he tried to present the police in a fair, and unbiases manner. What do you think? Please give examples.
4. Although the film was extremely popular in France, one of its main criticisms is that it conceptualizes “youth” as entirely male. When questioned about the absence of women in his film, Kassovitz replied that they would have detracted from the seriousness of its purpose: “I did not want to soften the topic. What would love have to do with this story.” What do you make of this comment? Do you agree or disagree with him and why? Did he miss the point? Could women only be important as “a love interest” in this story and if not, how could they have played a role in making a statement one way or another? (Note: a little out of class research will help you answer this question in an informed manner.)