

VIDEO CREATION GUIDELINES for St. Patrick High School

The content of school video productions has become a concern for some time now. This document is an attempt to provide guidance in the production of student videos, and is meant to harmonize with the beliefs and values of Yellowknife Catholic Schools.

Video is an excellent tool of learning from students. Although we do not want to restrict such learning opportunities from students, we do feel it is necessary to move away from negative cultural stereotyping and show that our school is a model of correct human behavior in every way, providing positive alternatives to problem-solving. What follows is a basic guideline for the production of videos by students enrolled at St. Patrick High School:

UNACCEPTABLE:

- no guns
- no swearing
- no dangerous activities (activities which could result in someone getting hurt)
- no illegal activities
- no glorification of violence (making violence look fun, enjoyable, or glamorous)
- no gratuitous violence (violence for the sake of violence, without any tie-in with the plot).
- no violence as a problem-solving recourse (if someone wrongs you, don't beat them up)

ACCEPTABLE:

- solutions to problems must be resolved through alternative, non-violent, original, imaginative means (remember the golden rule: treat others as you would like them to treat you).
- if there has to be violence, then there has to be a positive resolution.
- respect for human dignity must be evident throughout the video.

Dangerous Activities:

- anything that could result in the subject of a film getting hurt. This includes both dramatic and sporting videos. For sports videos, as in sport, there is often an inherent element of danger. This danger can be reduced by wearing protective gear or not showing the to the edge, extreme aspects of the sport. For the dramatic movies, it will rule out anything that may be dangerous (riding in the back of a moving pickup truck, jumping on the hood of a car, sliding down an icy rail). If an activity is deemed 'dangerous' then it cannot be shown in the Film Festival as we would be promoting and encouraging that behaviour.