

# tell it to the bees parents guide

Tell It to the Bees is a poignant film that navigates themes of love, loss, and societal expectations. Directed by Annabel Jankel, the movie, based on the novel by Fiona Shaw, captures the struggles of its central characters in a small British village in the 1950s. However, before you decide to watch this emotionally charged film, it is important to consider the Tell It to the Bees parents guide to understand the content and themes that may be relevant for younger viewers.

## Overview of the Film

Tell It to the Bees tells the story of a single mother, Lydia Weekes, who forms an unconventional bond with her neighbor, Dr. Jean Markham. Set against the backdrop of a repressive society, their relationship develops amidst personal and societal challenges, leading to a narrative filled with emotional depth and complexity.

## Key Themes

1. Love and Acceptance:
  - The film explores different forms of love – familial, platonic, and romantic.
  - It highlights the struggles of love that defies societal norms and expectations.
2. The Impact of Societal Norms:
  - The rigid societal expectations of the 1950s play a significant role in the characters' lives, depicting the harsh realities faced by those who differ from the norm.
  - The film illustrates the stigma associated with same-sex relationships during this era.
3. Healing and Resilience:
  - The relationship between Lydia and Jean offers a path to healing from grief and emotional trauma.
  - It portrays the strength of human connection in overcoming personal struggles.

## Content Analysis for Parents

When considering Tell It to the Bees, parents should be aware of several content aspects that could impact younger viewers. The film contains moderate themes and scenes that merit parental guidance.

## Language

- The film features occasional use of strong language, which may not be suitable for

younger audiences.

- Parents should be prepared for instances of swearing and potentially offensive terms that reflect the period's cultural context.

## **Sexual Content**

- Tell It to the Bees includes scenes that depict intimacy between characters, including:
- Kissing and other romantic gestures.
- Implicit sexual situations, which are not graphically shown but are integral to the story.
- Discussions about sexuality are also a key aspect of the relationship between Lydia and Jean, which may require parental explanation for younger viewers.

## **Violence and Disturbing Content**

- While the film is not overtly violent, there are moments that may be distressing, including:
- Emotional scenes involving loss and grief, which could be intense for sensitive viewers.
- The portrayal of societal rejection and the impact it has on the characters' lives may also be troubling for some.

## **Thematic Elements**

- The film addresses themes such as:
- Homophobia and social ostracism, which are presented in a way that reflects the historical context but may be difficult for younger viewers to understand.
- Mental health issues stemming from societal pressures and personal trauma, providing an opportunity for discussions about these important topics.

## **Age Appropriateness**

Determining the appropriate age for viewing Tell It to the Bees can be subjective and depends largely on the maturity of the viewer. Here are some factors to consider:

### **1. Maturity Level:**

- Children and pre-teens may not fully grasp the complexities of the adult themes presented.
- Teens may find the narrative relatable, especially in terms of exploring identity and love.

### **2. Parental Guidance:**

- Parents are encouraged to watch the film first or read reviews to gauge whether the content aligns with their family values and the emotional readiness of their children.

### **3. Discussion Opportunities:**

- The film provides ample opportunity for discussions about love, acceptance, and societal

pressures, making it a potential educational experience when viewed with parental guidance.

## How to Approach the Film

For parents who decide to watch *Tell It to the Bees* with their children, here are some tips to facilitate a thoughtful viewing experience:

- Pre-Watch Discussion:
  - Talk about the historical context of the film and the societal norms of the 1950s.
  - Prepare children for the themes of love and loss that are present throughout the film.
- Watch Together:
  - Watching the film as a family allows for real-time discussions about the content and themes.
  - Encourage questions and insights from younger viewers to foster understanding.
- Post-Watch Reflection:
  - After viewing, discuss the characters' journeys and the choices they made.
  - Explore the themes of acceptance and love, and how they relate to current societal issues.

## Final Thoughts

In conclusion, *Tell It to the Bees* is a beautifully crafted film that delves into deep emotional and social themes. While it offers a rich narrative, parents should take into consideration the content outlined in the *Tell It to the Bees* parents guide. By understanding the film's themes, language, and emotional weight, parents can make informed decisions about its appropriateness for their children. Engaging in discussions about the film can also serve as a valuable opportunity to address important topics surrounding love, acceptance, and societal norms, ultimately leading to a more enriched viewing experience for both parents and children.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is 'Tell It to the Bees' about?

'*Tell It to the Bees*' is a romantic drama film set in the 1950s that explores the unconventional love story between a young woman and her neighbor, while also addressing themes of societal norms and acceptance.

### Is 'Tell It to the Bees' suitable for children?

The film contains mature themes, including romance and emotional struggles, which may not be suitable for younger audiences. Parental discretion is advised.

## **What age rating does 'Tell It to the Bees' have?**

'Tell It to the Bees' is typically rated R for its adult themes and content, indicating that it may not be suitable for viewers under 17 without parental guidance.

## **Are there any intense scenes in 'Tell It to the Bees'?**

Yes, the film includes some intense emotional scenes that deal with love, loss, and societal rejection, which may be challenging for sensitive viewers.

## **Does 'Tell It to the Bees' have any strong language or violence?**

The film contains some mild strong language but does not focus heavily on violence. The main emphasis is on emotional and relational drama.

## **What messages or themes does 'Tell It to the Bees' convey?**

'Tell It to the Bees' conveys messages about love, acceptance, and the challenges of living authentically in a judgmental society.

## **Is there any parental guidance available for 'Tell It to the Bees'?**

Yes, parents can find guidance from various film review sites that provide detailed insights into the film's content, helping them decide if it's appropriate for their children.

## **How does 'Tell It to the Bees' address LGBTQ+ themes?**

'Tell It to the Bees' is notable for its representation of LGBTQ+ relationships, portraying the struggles and joys of love in a time when such relationships were often stigmatized.

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