

Jayden Grant

September 15, 2025

Professor: Kolowolski

Pulp Fiction

REFLECTION COVER LETTER

Dear Professor Kolowoski,

This essay is based on Trigger warnings vs. Censorship. I Picked trigger warnings due to my experience watching a show or a movie and there's content that's a little excessive i would want to be warned instead of it just being censored because it takes out the fun in the show for example in pulp fiction there is violence i wouldn't want someone to get beat up and they censor the blood i want to see for myself or at least be warned. My audience is most likely people who watch shows and have an opinion on if things should get censored or if there should be a warning and I'm unbiased so I aimed to use balanced language. Understanding other people's perspectives is the ultimate goal. I tried to find an idle ground in my tone, to engage readers with different view points without entangling them.

Some of the most significant insight I gained was a deeper understanding of the complexities in discussions especially about language because i realized that trigger warnings aren't just protecting people from harmful content its about academic freedom its great having a

decision because it allows you to appreciate the content and the way arguments are shaped and received and you having a choice to receive it or deny it is the beauty of trigger warnings.

This assignment contributed to achieving a lot of course Learning outcomes because it helped me to understand how context shapes everything because things like trigger warnings can be helpful in a field like therapy but can be a drag in a regular conversation. The mix of authors, settings or even a purpose really ties into if trigger warnings are appropriate or not. It also makes me think about discussions of a sensitive topic because it can open dialogue up or shut it off and turn it down easily.

This assignment helped me to really understand the course learning outcome about exploring and analyzing “ a variety of genres and rhetoric in terms of formal arguments. But now, I see it everywhere in everyday conversation, social media posts, even in our own thoughts. This also opens my eye about reading and writing because we're supposed to explore and analyze like reading a variety of genres and rhetorical situations and i think i did that with this essay seeing how trigger warnings can change how a person function but censorship also can this essay is unbiased but it also shares my opinion on why trigger warnings are better than censorship.

Sincerely,

Jayden Grant

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Professor Kolowolski

Pulp fiction 37830

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Trigger warning vs censorship

Ever had a movie scene just sneak up on you and hit you way too close to home. It's like, one minute you're chilling, the next you're dealing with some serious feelings you weren't ready for. It's like what we are dealing with right now, trying to keep art wild and free while also being cool with mental health and triggers. When it comes to films, the whole trigger warnings versus censorship debate gets real intense. Some argue that trigger warnings are like a friendly heads up, giving you a chance to brace yourself while others lean to censorship because it chops out everything that can cause problems. This essay argues that trigger warnings are a better approach especially when analyzing a film like pulp fiction they foster understanding and open-mindedness whereas censorship throws away the creativity and critical engagement. By understanding the film's violence, drug use and the complexities of it show how trigger warnings empower viewers and encourage deeper, more meaningful conversation.

The primary belief behind using trigger warnings comes from respecting individual choice and helping people engage thoughtfully with the media. Unlike censorship, which just blocks access, trigger warnings give viewers the heads-up they need to decide what they want to watch. This is better for society because it encourages open conversation and critical thinking, instead of shutting things down. For example in the big sleep the complicated milieu of 1940s Los Angeles, with all its shady dealings and violence, could be a lot for some people. A Trigger warning could get them ready for the heavy stuff, so they can watch it with a clearer head. That's better than censorship. Plus trigger warnings acknowledge that it might affect viewers but they don't stop the art from being made. This way people get to choose if they want to watch something that might be triggering, while also thinking about the bigger picture and creating a society that's more understanding.

It's hard to figure out what should be regulated. I think we should really focus on stuff that causes direct harm, like child exploitation or speech that clearly pushes people to violence. When it comes to who decides as a whole, with experts helping out. Government and religious groups can be biased, so broader seems safer. The tricky part is that letting society decide would mean unpopular ideas get shut down. We'd need strong free speech protection to stop that. So that's why I'm a fan of trigger warnings; they let people choose what they want to see instead of blocking things out. My preference for trigger warnings aligns with this approach because it emphasizes individual autonomy and informed consent. Instead of censoring content, trigger warnings empower individuals to make their own decisions as for books like the big sleep it doesn't need censorship but it needs trigger warnings for the violence a potential concern might be the approach it can come off as permissive by those who believe in stricter censorship.

Navigating sensitive material is something I've thought a lot about, especially considering how we regulate access to it. Honestly trigger warnings make me a bit more cautious, but not necessarily less likely to engage. It's more about knowing what's coming so I can mentally prepare myself though I can see how they might create anxiety for some censorship. On the other hand, it definitely makes me curious. For example, when things were banned, I went out of my way to find out why. In this class being exposed to tough subjects has been really valuable. It's pushed me to think critically and challenge my own perspectives. Ultimately, I believe personal choice should play a big role. People should have the autonomy to decide what they're ready to engage with, even if it's potentially disturbing. It's about empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their consumptions of content.

When it comes down to it the whole discussion boils down to how we want to deal with tough stuff. I've argued here that trigger warnings are a way better approach, especially when you're digging into film like pulp fiction. They kind of open the door for understanding and let you make up your own mind, censorship just slams that door shut, killing creativity and stopping you from really getting involved with the material. Trigger warnings give you a sense of control, help you think critically, and show respect for different points of view. On the other side censorship can push voices to the margins and keep you from getting to the heart of the matter. Looking ahead, it is imperative that we continue to advocate for policies and practices that prioritize personal autonomy increasingly diverse and interconnected. The ability to engage with challenging content in a thoughtful and respectful manner will be essential for fostering empathy, promoting social justice, and advancing human understanding. Ultimately the choice between trigger warnings and censorship is a choice between empowerment and control. In the end

having a choice to watch or not watch something due to a warning is way more convenient than just blurring it out because it ruins the audience's joy and feel for the film.