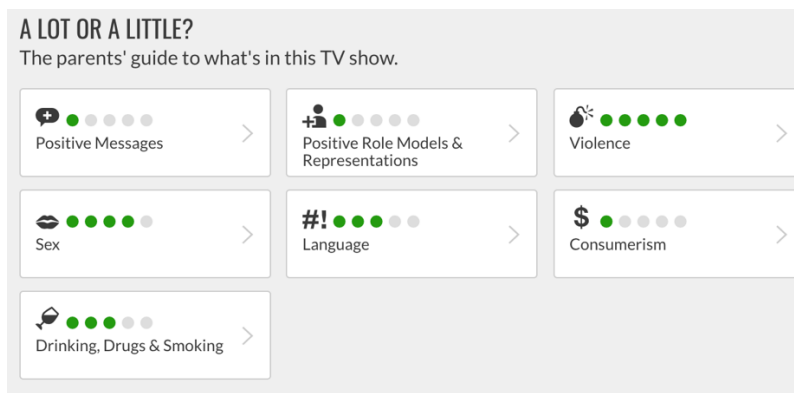




Parent Information –

Red Light, Green Light (RLGL) and Squid Game



Quick Facts: BBFC – rated 15; found on Roblox; not suitable for young teens; video clips showing violence found on TikTok and YouTube (accessible by all ages)

This latest game craze has originated from the Netflix show, *Squid Game* - it is a Korean production and the storyline follows a group of adults who compete to win innocent-looking playground games, but who are killed if they do not succeed at the tasks. However, parents need to know that the level of violence is very intense in *Squid Game*. Characters are systematically tortured and killed for the sadistic pleasure of a game master. Adults have sex, and there are threats of sexual violence: Women are grabbed by the hair and beaten. Themes concerning the highs one gets from gambling, winning, or conning money are a main focus.

Deemed too violent for young teens by Common Sense Media, the BBFC has given it a rating of 15 due to the extreme violence and sex portrayed in the series. There is a lot of torture and murder to endure -- no subtlety there -- and the violence can come off as gratuitous.

Squid Game's popularity is beginning to spread across various online platforms. ROBLOX, which is suitable for children over the age of 7, has an area of the RLGL game and gun shots are fired as characters are killed off if they fail in the game, exposing young children to this violent craze. There has been a slew of content created - ranging from memes to apps - that convey the violence of the show, so it is important for parents, carers and educators to understand the basis of *Squid Game* and the potential risks to young people who might be exposed to it.

What are the hazards for children?

Squid Game's 15 rating has not prevented clips and images from the show being uploaded onto social media sites such as [TikTok](#), with the #SquidGame hashtag being viewed more than 22.8 billion times. There have been reports of children who have accounts on these platforms inadvertently viewing gory, explicit scenes from the programme, and parents and carers should be mindful of the prevalence of these uploads.

The popularity of the programme has also led to [online challenges](#) based on various scenes, which see people taking part in seemingly innocent children's games. On the show, however, characters are executed if they fail in the game - and videos of people pretending to kill each other after competing in Squid Game-style contests are going viral on social media, where they are easily accessible to children.

What is the Squid Game Challenge app?

Squid Game Challenge (also known as K-Game Challenge) is an app for smartphones and tablets that has been released for Android and iOS, and the two systems differ significantly on their [age ratings](#) for the game. The iTunes Store rates the app as 12+ (advising of "mild/infrequent horror/fear themes"), while the PEGI rating for Android is just 3+, which means that very young children might be able to download and play the game even with parental controls activated on their device or through Google Play.

The gameplay is frequently interrupted by pop-ups and ads (sometimes appearing while the user is rapidly tapping their screen while attempting to complete the challenge). This could easily lead to unwanted purchases or accidental visits to inappropriate sites beyond the app.

What can trusted adults do?

As a parent or carer, keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. [Speak to them openly](#) and chat about how they have been spending time on their devices; let them ask questions, too. Ensure that the [parental controls](#) are activated [on your child's device](#) and that age-restricted child profiles are properly set up any on-demand services available through the family TV (such as [Netflix](#), in this case) to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.

If you see your child replicating the challenges from the show or hear them talking about scenes and characters from Squid Game, it would be a timely opportunity to discuss with them that the programme is not intended for children, that much of the content would be inappropriate for their age, and that the violence in the series is very realistic and often upsetting.

Adult
Written by Sune
September 28, 2021

age 17+ ★★★★★

Brutal

Those who say it's fine for kids 13 and up must have very hardy 13 year olds. My two love Stranger Things and the Hunger Games but this is much, much more violent. My 13 yr old has seen the Umbrella Academy, which is also violent but this is really much worse. The amount of killing is ho ... [continue reading](#)

This title contains:

 Violence & scariness

Review taken from CommonSenseMedia