

Infection Affliction Supporting Document

Infection Affliction takes a sombre, realistic look at the effects of isolation upon familial relationships- specifically sibling bonds. As two sisters try to keep each other alive during a zombie apocalypse, they struggle to cope with themselves and each other. Lara, the youngest, has a plan to find a new beginning, and other survivors, down at the South Coast, but despite her intelligence she knows she cannot survive alone. Lara must convince Jackie, two years older, to leave the past behind. Jackie feels burdened by the responsibility of being her sister's sole carer, while grappling with the guilt of having to end the lives of their parents, who got infected on the first night of the outbreak.

Infection Affliction was created for a Narrabundah College media assessment. Inspired by zombie media of the past and present, such as Night Of The Living Dead, The Walking Dead and The Last Of Us, it presents a realistic view of a deadly infection on modern youth. The idea that two people could trust, forgive and work together during dire circumstances is a concept drawn from other post-apocalypse films and television shows with famous duos such as Rick Grimes and Daryl Dixon, and Joel Miller and Ellie Williams.

While using other creative works as inspiration, this short film was also influenced by the effects of Covid-19 on the lives of high school students. The isolation was felt by everybody, but the mourning of a proper teenage experience is something that both real Australian teens and the characters of this short film struggled with. Covid-19 made it impossible to escape yourself, and your family, resulting in tension in the home. This is represented by Lara and Jackie's fights at the dining table, a place where family is meant to talk, discuss and support one another. Due to the strains in relationships caused by a deadly virus, this is not possible. Despite the circumstances, Lara and Jackie care for each other deeply, and would do anything for the other's survival, symbolising a feeling of solidarity that became stronger during Covid-19.