

“BLACK CHRISTMAS” IS VINTAGE WEINSTEIN

It is not uncommon for theaters to host dark comedies or tear-jerkers during the most fun time of the year, namely Christmastime. Psycho-type films have also been released in December. But when it comes to blood and gore flicks, they never open on Christmas Day. Unless, of course, the men behind the movie are Harvey and Bob Weinstein.

It's not so much the plot of "Black Christmas" that bothered us—a wacko who terrorizes college girls at Christmas—it's the fact that the Weinstein boys were back again, choosing a title and an opening date to make their latest statement.

Even in Hollywood, a town where bashing Christians is sport—and Catholics are the target of choice—the Weinsteins stand out. In 1995, they treated us to "Priest," a film where the audience was introduced to totally dysfunctional priests, all of whom are made screwy because of the Catholic Church. "Dogma" hit the big screen in 1999, and this time viewers were treated to a descendant of Mary and Joseph who works in an abortion clinic, a foul-mouthed 13th apostle and a comment comparing Mass to lousy sex. In "40 Days and 40 Nights," which opened during Lent of 2002, a Catholic is ridiculed for giving up sex for Lent. And in the 2002 film "The Magdalene Sisters," the only nuns the audience meets are sadistic.

It makes sense, then, that the Weinstein tag-team would return in 2006 with their latest contribution. The fact that they chose Christmas Day to open is not by accident: They scheduled "Priest" to open on Good Friday, until, that is, the Catholic League pressured them to change the date (it opened three weeks earlier). Unlike "Black Christmas," that film engendered a strong response from the league—the script was anti-Catholic.

Make no mistake about it, the Weinstein boys wanted “Black Christmas” to be their Christmas present to Christians.

COMEDY CENTRAL'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

On Christmas Eve, Comedy Central featured “Sacrilegious Sunday,” a series of non-stop shows designed to offend Christians. It opened at midnight with “Carlos Mencia,” the standup comedian who, in 2006, did a show on the sex life of Pope John Paul II in heaven. At 1:00 a.m., “Bad Santa” was shown: the R-rated film stars a Santa character who is “a bitter, foul-mouthed and perpetually grouchy alcoholic who doesn’t care for kids.” Then there were five showings of “MADtv,” a sketch comedy show that ran an offensive portrayal of the nativity on Christmas Day, 1999. At 10:30 a.m., “40 Days and 40 Nights” was shown: the R-rated movie features a Catholic young man who during Lent “decides to observe the 40-day tradition by abstaining from all sexual contact, including self-gratification.” Then came “Dogma” at 2:30 p.m., an R-rated comedy described as follows: “Would you believe that the last living descendant of Jesus Christ is a woman working at an abortion clinic in Illinois?” At 7:00 p.m. Comedy Central showed “Superstar,” a film about a “mildly hyperactive Catholic school student convinced that she smells bad.” The evening ended with two episodes of “South Park,” the show that likes to depict the Virgin Mary spraying blood from her vagina in the pope’s face.

The ADL recently issued red flags about the Sacha Baron Cohen movie “Borat,” and two years ago objected to his “Da Ali G Show” that aired on HBO; Comedy Central, however, showed no

interest in featuring the latter on Yom Kippur. Earlier in 2006, Muslims raised objections to an inoffensive cartoon of Muhammad, yet Comedy Central showed no interest in airing it at any time, never mind during Ramadan. Of course, Comedy Central could try to air some reruns of the “Amos n’ Andy” show on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, except CBS won’t allow anyone to air any of the episodes.

Doug Herzog of Comedy Central just likes to feature anti-Christian fare. Especially at Christmas. Write to Herzog at doug.herzog@comedycentral.com and ask him why.

ROSIE APOLOGIZES

Rosie O’Donnell makes a habit of offending Catholics. On December 8, she apologized. But not to us. After mocking the Chinese the week before, she apologized “to any group that was offended” (which included many Asian groups).

Catholics are still waiting for their many apologizes. Ever since she became a regular on “The View,” O’Donnell has been mouthing off against Catholics. As always, it’s the ex-Catholics who are the worst.