

Movie review essay sample



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sixths writing will give a basic outline of the Spartan during this era and show how the movie 300 relates to history. Spartan were bread to be good soldiers. Upon a male birth, its life was determined to be a soldier or to end as a baby. If this child was born with any problems or weaknesses while being inspected it would be thrown over a cliff, ending its life. A child that lived through its first examination would be raised by its mother until the age of seven. At this time in the child's life, it would be taken from its mother and grouped together in a " pack".

The packs would be sent to a litany type boot camp known as the Agog (Connelly, pig 39). This is where the boys became stronger with their survival skills and wiser with more responsibilities. This was no daycare, it was a boot camp. These boys are being trained by soldiers to never back down, be very competitive, and fight (Connelly, pig. 38). They received whippings as a way to prove their toughness. They were still green, but this was just the beginning to their future of training. At the age of twelve, the boy is classes as a youth.

The youth's physical education is intensified, discipline became harsh, and they were loaded with extra tasks. Youths have to go barefoot and only dressed in tunic (underwear) both winter and summer (Connelly, pig 39). Their training never ended, the fighting continued, and they would be placed with a mission to go out a kill a slave without getting caught (Sundae, pig 12). If they got caught they would endure in a harsh punishment. The youth became a young adult at the age of 18. Many of these young men served as trainers for the boys.

At the age of 20 Spartan were eligible for military service and would join a messes which included 15 men of various ages (Sundae, pig 12). This does not mean that all men were able to join; some were rejected and fell to a lesser form of citizenship. Most of the men rejected or not, would spend most of their day in the barracks with their unit until the age of 30(Sundae, pig 12). Soldiers remained part of the military unit until the age of 60. The Spartan are very serious people that do not play around. Bravery is in their soul and they just kept training until it was time to battle.

In their solidier typed culture, there are three classes of citizens. Full citizens are known Expatriates that received land as a gift to their military service. The second class are the Periodic and they were free non -citizens that consisted of merchants, craftsmen and sailors. The third class Helots, are slaves owned by the Spartan (Connelly, page). Spartan were powerful so they had more slaves than the first or second classed people. Although the movie 300 portrays them as being “ good” people, they were not as good as people think.

Spartan are soldiers and they would steal neighboring land just to build to their slave labor force. This is why there were more slaves than Spartan. The move 300, produced in 2009 by Warner Brose. And directed by Jack Snyder, Portrays the Battle of Thermopile and the social structure of the Spartan. This battle took place in August or September 480 BC at a small costal pass in Thermopile (Cassini-Scott, pig 11). King Leonia and 300 Spartan fought to death against King Xeroxes and his massive Persian Army.

Xerxes structured a huge army and navy with the verge to conquer all of Greece. In a seven day war, approximately 7000 Greek (including Spartan) held off approximately 200000 Persians from invading their territory. A three day battle began when the army of King Leonia and his troops blocked the only path the Persian army could pass o continue their invasion of Greece. Unfortunately, a Greek resident named Philters betrayed the Greeks by revealing a small path that led behind Greek lines (Cassini-Scott, pig 11).

The bulk of the Greek army was dismissed and Leonia stayed to guard his city with 300 Spartan, 700 Thespians and 400 Thebe's. The Greeks were defeated although they left an example of the courageous power of a patriotic army defending native soil. The movie 300 is a very entertaining film. The name of the people, the setting, the time it took place and the culture of the Spartan in this film are accurate. The narrator tells of how newborn would be inspected which would determine weather they live or be discarded which was very true.

The truth follows the story telling how a boy was taken from its mother and put in groups where they began their education and training. King Leonia did consult with the Oracle at Delphi which led the King and Spartan fighting until death with the belief that the Kings death would save Greece. History shows all these events really happened, but Hollywood pulled some strings in the film possibly to make this event more interesting so they could make more money. One without historical knowledge of the movie would not be able to point out the inaccuracies but here are a few that were noticed...

The Spartan soldiers went fighting without any form of body armor but history shows body armor was a valuable asset to real Spartan soldiers (sex sells in Hollywood). In the movie only Leonia wore a plumed helmet when in actuality all Spartan wore this helmet (Hollywood just made Leonia stand out). The Spartan youth was not to go out and kill a wolf but was to kill a slave without getting caught. There were no charging rhinos or elephants, only horses fought in the battle. Is it true that only 300 Spartan attacked the Persians?

No, and this was the biggest problem in the movie because Athenians helped the Spartan battling the Persians. There are a few more inaccuracies (the hunchback Philters was not a hunchback and King Xerxes was not 9 foot tall) but these were just added to the film to help sales go up. In conclusion, the movie is a spectacular one based on The Battle of Thermopile. It brought a piece of history to viewers showing how warriors really battled back in their days. The film plays a great role sharing how the battle went down and with whom it occurred with. The Greeks eventually won the war although this battle was lost.