

If you want to reply quickly, please just tick the boxes. However, it would be really helpful if you can use the lines provided for a separate sheet of paper if necessary to add any details of anything to mind.

# Tarzan Questionnaire

1. As a child, how did you feel about the Tarzan films starring Johnny Weissmuller?

These films were among my favourites

I liked them a lot



Very popular

Quite popular

Not very popular

I do not

Your Name: BERNARD HUGH LETCHET

Date of Birth: 1926

Comments: *Mr. Carson was very popular in my area (both before Munich etc)*

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1. As a child, how did you feel about the Tarzan films starring Johnny Weissmuller? (Tick one box)

These films were among my favourites

I liked them a lot

I quite liked them

I did not like them much

I hated them

I do not really remember

Comments: .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Romantic  Boring   
Violent  Sad

2. How popular were these films with children in general?

Predictable  Exciting

Extremely popular

Very popular

Quite popular

Not very popular

I do not really remember

Comments: ..... We had to queue to get into  
the cinema so they were very popular in  
my area (North London - Muswell Hill)  
.....  
.....



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

3. Which of the following characters do you remember? (Tick as many boxes as you wish). Write beside each one whether you liked them, disliked them, or were indifferent. If you had a favourite, please indicate this.

- Tarzan (Johnny Weissmuller)  .....
- Jane (Maureen O'Sullivan)  .....
- Boy (Johnny Sheffield)  *I do not remember him*
- Cheeta the Chimp  .....

Comments: *By 1939, when Boy appeared I was nearly 14 years old and losing interest in Tarzan. There were many Chimps that I cannot remember which one this was - but I enjoyed them all.*

4. What were your impressions of the Tarzan films as a child?

(Tick as many boxes as you wish and add more descriptions if you want to)

- |             |                                     |           |                                     |       |                          |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Romantic    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Boring    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Violent     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sad       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fun         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sexy/Rude | <input type="checkbox"/>            | ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Predictable | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Exciting  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Frightening | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Funny     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Did you think that they were suitable or unsuitable for children?

- Suitable       Fairly suitable       Unsuitable

Comments: *I cannot remember the various films that you quote as they all merged into one long jungle adventure.*

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT



95-20-18  
JULY 2000

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Please mention anything you recall about watching Tarzan films as a child. For example, did you go alone, with family, or friends? What did you like most about the films? Was there anything you disliked? Do you remember any particular scenes or images? Did the films appeal to children in general, or to boys or girls specifically? Did you ever play at being Tarzan, Jane, or one of the other characters? MGM Tarzan films came out in 1932, 1934, 1937, 1939, 1941 and 1942, and the character of Boy appeared from 1939. Did the films change much over that time? If so, how? Any other comments are also very welcome!

I always went to the Cinema with my elder Sister every week. However we were expected at my Grandfather's house for tea at 5 pm sharp. Therefore we often missed the last minutes of the film as it took 10 minutes to get here.

Just as I became old enough to go to the Cinema on my own the War broke out and put a stop to that. My taste was changing and I now slavishly followed Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers seeing every film. This was after the hiatus at the beginning of the War when we were used to walking home in the blackout - (not safe nowadays!)

I was not allowed to go to the Saturday Childrens shows and not to any film until I was 9 years old.

I do remember, in the Tarzan films - the march of the elephants to rescue Tarzan from some peril or other also Jane's attempts to make a home of the tree hut.

Following the Tarzan films I did give a bellows sometimes on the way to tea. After the Fred Astaire films I tap-danced to my Grandfather and was told off for making a noise.

Before going to the films I had read many of the Tarzan Tales by Edgar Rice Burroughs as well as his Martian tales. (Heady stuff for a 10 year old!)

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