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### **Vampires, Window Cleaners and a man called Brian: Censoring the 70 s**

A discussion of film censorship in Britain in the 1970 s usually focuses on iconic films such as *A Clockwork Orange* (1971) and *Straw Dogs* (1971) and their battles with the censor. However, the work of the British Board of Film Censorship during the 1970 s followed a pattern of increasing liberality and permission which can be observed through their treatment of hundreds of other films classified in this period. This paper will consider the censorship of mainstream popular films, and examine how dominant film genres in this period like the sex-comedy and exploitation horror were dealt with by the BBFC. By considering films including *The Vampire Lovers* (1970), *Confessions of a Window Cleaner* (1974) and *Monty Python s Lfe of Brian* (1980) I will evaluate how the policies of the BBFC developed throughout the 1970 s. I will also debate the role of changing public attitudes and the impact of the popular press in an attempt to re-examine some of the misconceptions about film censorship in this period.