

The Genesis Children

US : 1972 : dir. Billy Byars : 84 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
Max Adams; Butch Burr; Vincent Child; Bubba Collins; Peter Glawson; Jack Good; Mike Good; Greg Hill; David Johnson
 Adult cast unknown – if any adults present

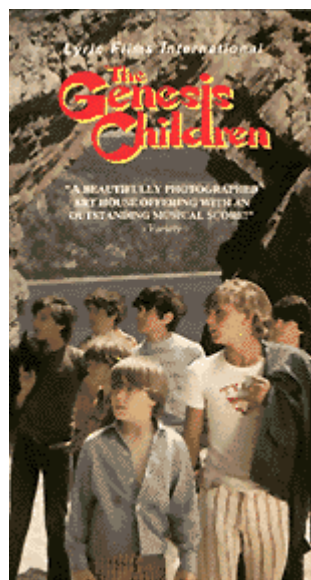
Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	♂	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
2553c	1.5	3	12	689	3	3	-	-	-	No	Unseen

Commercial gay video distributor – **Award Films International** – review:
www.gayweb.com/106

“Considered lost for almost twenty years, **"THE GENESIS CHILDREN"** has acquired mythic stature among art house devotees. Peter Glawson portrays the charismatic leader of a high-spirited student group¹ on holiday in Italy. The film’s publicist at the time described the surreal adventures of Peter and friends as a free-flowing, four-part "multi-sensual symphony" bereft of traditional story-line. One national critic described the boys’ anarchic revelry as "a dream-like descent from civilisation into chaos reminiscent of **'LORD OF THE FLIES'**".

Still controversial two decades after its initial release, **"THE GENESIS CHILDREN"**’s uninhibited naturist sentiments and anti-establishment climax incurred the wrath of critics and censors nationwide. This digitally-remastered version is presented in its original uncensored theatrical release version. The lush cinematography, breathtaking Mediterranean vistas and soaring musical score have all been painstakingly restored to their original lustre. Unrated. Contains extensive nudity. Viewer discretion is advised. Price \$79.95 ”

“A beautifully photographed art-house offering with an astonishing musical score” - **Variety**



*Naked boys a go-go in a "multi-sensual symphony"
 But is it art? Source: Award Films International*

¹ Or "schoolboys", to use their proper term

CVMC video retail/rental website review:

"In Italy, a group of American schoolboys, roughly eight to fifteen years of age, sign up for a play, then, for reasons never fully explained, find themselves roaming a beach, there questioning cultural mores. This rather odd film is said to be "a dream-like descent from civilisation into chaos reminiscent of Lord of The Flies," but add a 70's atmosphere and philosophy if you want a better understanding of what is to here be found [sic]. An interesting little film, but not much of a plot to be found. Perhaps best appreciated by the few remaining hippies (check out that VW Van!) or devote naturists.

Remastered and uncut version

Rated NR: adult themes [sic]; mild profanity; moderate/extensive nudity

Categories: Avant Garde, Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Adolescent

Movie Boys website comment:

"Surreal coming of age adventures of a group of young boys away from civilisation. Contains extensive nudity."

"Eight American schoolboys in Italy, ages 10 to 18. This movie has a murky plot, which seems to be there only to give the boys multiple chances to run around naked on the beach. Out of the 85 minutes of the movie, a total of about 15 minutes are devoted to this. The original theatrical release was rated X – there is no violence, sex or bad language, so the rating must be strictly for nudity.



It has "breathtaking Mediterranean vistas" too...

Source: Movieboys website

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. This does smack of the last gasp of liberated hippy sensibilities before the long ice age of Reaganism made the world too cold a place to permit child nudity, even in the Mediterranean. None of the boys named is listed in *The Moving Picture Boy*, but then it's obviously an underground movie. I can find no reference to it in any other source, but if *Variety* reviewed it, we can at least dismiss any attempt to rubbish it as soft-core 70s pornography. That it was made with a pederastic relish seems manifestly obvious, but there's no harm in that. We shouldn't allow the bigots to drown out voices from a less obsessional age (and spoil everyone's fun).

See subject index under [BANNED FILMS / CENSORSHIP](#), **NUDITY** and **SEASIDE HOLIDAYS**.