

Top 10: Most Violent Video Games

If the Supreme Court decides to uphold a law banning violent video game sales to minors, kids won't be playing these 10 till they're 18.

By Andrew Chomik,

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A new California law is being debated in the Supreme Court that would forbid selling violent video games to minors. While some justices support the law, others are raising concerns about free speech. One thing's for sure: Violence in video games is synonymous with success in the industry. Violent video games have been a constant source of frustration for soccer moms, conservatives and commentators everywhere. The wanton acts of violence in these games are denounced by them as immoral, though for others, they are an outlet for stress and frustration. And while the controversy is something that will always exist, the boundaries of violence loosen while the sophistication of game technology grows. Therefore, this list of the top 10 most violent video games consists of titles that made their violent mark on the gaming world -- but by no means will it be absolute. There will always be violent video games that are more sadistic lurking in the shadows.

Page 2: *Carmageddon* - 1997

The violence in *Carmageddon* comes from the sheer ability to run people down in the most imaginatively brutal ways with a multi-purposed road hog reminiscent of those seen in the 1975 film *Death Race 2000*. Ramming pedestrians into steaming piles of bloody flesh, hitting massive roadside bombs (highly unethical given today's "war on terrorism" standards) and obliterating rival vehicles with copious amounts of unnecessary weapons and power-ups -- these are just a few of the items on the menu of this video game. Perhaps the tagline on the box of *Carmageddon* says it best: "The racing game for the chemically imbalanced." How very true.

Page 3: *Soldier of Fortune* - 2000

Keeping with the true 3-D environment spirit, the key thing that separated *Soldier of Fortune* from its other first-person cousins was the use of the GHOU System, a physics-based game engine that lets you, for a lack of a better term, torture and brutalize enemies at your most sadistic desires. While the game offers an action-packed story of terrorists and nuclear warfare (and the chance to assassinate Saddam Hussein), it's the sick little pleasures of blowing off enemy limbs with a shotgun and watching blood spray and guts spill that make this game one of the most truly violent titles of all time.

Page 4: *God of War II* - 2007

As Kratos, a former member of the Spartan army, you become the ruthless god of war in the pantheon of Greek gods. Sounds simple enough? Probably, but the tale also includes erasing your tormented past, and that includes cutting a violent and deadly path to get your satisfaction. But it's going to take a lot of blood, sweat and tears along the way. Did we mention blood yet? *God of War 2* promotes ruthless weapon use, stylized and gory finishing kills to enemies and brutal cut scenes that would make Quentin Tarantino blush (including one final kill where you continually slam a door on another god's head numerous times). The mythological backstory of the game serves to soften the blow of equating it to modern-day street violence, but then again, ruthless gods probably didn't settle matters over a cup of tea either.

Page 5: *Gears of War 2* - 2008

Slicing a foe with a chainsaw from the groin upward is gruesome enough; however, getting to use a corpse as a human shield when taking fire takes the cake (not to mention the obtuse and unashamed use of blood that accompanies these techniques). Either way, *Gears of War 2* gives the third-person adventurer just enough violence to keep him satisfied, even when between a barrage of bullets (when blood is spilled, it shows up nicely on the screen, obscuring your battlefield view -- just like in real life!).

Page 6: *Mortal Kombat* - 1992

The origins of violent video gaming are about as untraceable as the Loch Ness Monster, but there was no denying the violence when *Mortal Kombat* debuted in homes everywhere in 1992. The uproar and backlash was unprecedented at the time, as players engaged in 2-D combat with a variety of moves that induced blood loss, explosions and all things gory. While it was a dastardly game designed to sour soccer moms everywhere, kids loved the "fatality" finishers, including uppercutting your opponent only to have him land torso-deep in razor-sharp spikes. "Finish him" also became one of the most recognizable one-liners in the short history of video gaming. It was still gross though.

Page 7: *Thrill Kill* - 1998

This game was not actually officially released on the PlayStation, as it was originally intended, but many copies have since become available through bootleg channels. Either way, only the truly sadistic would want to track down this game and enjoy it. It involves a four-player 3-D fighting game in which some of its most unsavory characters fight to the death. Armed with syringes, cattle prods, severed limbs, and more, players simply beat the daylights out of one another with grotesque, fetishistic and/or sexual maneuvers, always with the result of too many blood splatters to count.

Page 8: *MadWorld* - 2009

What's black and white and red all over? Your victims as they're splattered against the wall after being skewered on a lamppost. Or perhaps the answer could include disposing of your enemies in a meat grinder, or playing darts using only your opponents and a baseball bat. Whatever the stylish kill, this video game means serious business on the violence factor. Maybe the blood splatter on a black-and-white backdrop really highlights the ferociousness and gratuitous violence, but any game with flavors of *The Running Man* and a protagonist with a chainsaw on his arm usually have violent potency.

Page 9: *Manhunt* - 2003

As history would repeat itself every time a controversial new video game was introduced to gamers, *Manhunt* and its producers ran into constant battles with game classifications, angry parents and censorship laws that stirred a fury among critics upon its release (including being the first video game classified as a movie by the province of Ontario in 2004 due to its grotesque nature). Either way, the player sneaks around a 3-D environment and commits heinous acts of murder as part of a sadistic form of entertainment. Decapitation, steel-object-to-the-brain impaling and even the ability to jam a sickle up an unsuspecting victim's ass was part of the *Manhunt* experience. Violence indeed.

Page 10: *Grand Theft Auto III* - 2001

If *Mortal Kombat* was the granddaddy of ultra violent gaming, then anything from the Grand Theft Auto series (particularly *Grand Theft Auto III*) is easily its bastardized offspring. As the title suggests, you're out to make a name for yourself by accomplishing missions in a third-person environment, and stealing cars is the most lighthearted crime you can commit. From massive gangland-style beat downs to barbecuing prostitutes with flamethrowers, nothing is too vile or unrealistic in the face of death, blood and mayhem. Subsequent violence from later sequels (including *GTA: Vice City*, *GTA: San Andreas* and *GTA IV*) was simply adding more fuel to the fire. Once the franchise hit the 3-D third-person perspective, all hell broke loose, and you can blame *GTA III* for all of it.

Page 11: *Postal 2* - 2003

Taking the throne of video game violence is a mantle often reserved for only the elite titles, and *Postal 2* easily captures the top spot. This is a game in which it is not uncommon to drop-kick grenades and whip scythes at unsuspecting civilians if they refuse to participate in your everyday life story (which is, after all, the plot behind the game). Of course, this includes using cat carcasses as silencers on your gun, hitting people with anthrax-laden cow heads and playing "fetch" with dogs using the severed heads of your dismembered victims. *Postal 2* is the epitome of senseless, over-the-top video game violence.

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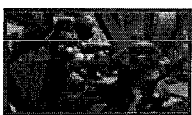
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By Andrew Chomik Andrew Chomik

An avid world traveler and politics enthusiast, Andrew is a communications professional based in Canada. He is currently studying social media strategy at the University of Calgary.

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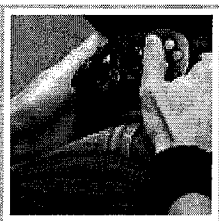
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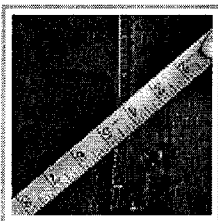
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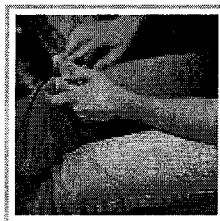
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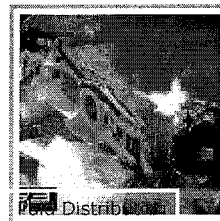
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gw 1 year ago

How is Ninja Gaiden not on this list? It is by far the most violent game I've played.

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TheMadness 1 year ago

List is fair enough. If Dead Space would have made it on there I would have been surprised, the whole basis of the game is officially described as "strategic dismemberment" and one of your recurring enemies is a baby which you must break into pieces before you stomp on it. That alone maybe, but the list is acceptable.

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Reader 1 year ago

I thought Phantasmagoria would be on here.

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billibobthorton 1 year ago

my friend was recently telling me about some game his brother has (which i think is japanese) where the whole game is about raping ppl and you get more point for how violent the rape is..i know sounds f'ked up and apparently its illegal in 48 states. i don't know the game title but i thought it'd be on this list

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. 1 year ago

gta 3 is really tame compared to other stuff on this list, also i think fallout 3 deserves to be on here. I mean you can see peoples eyeballs fly against a wall when you shoot them in the head.

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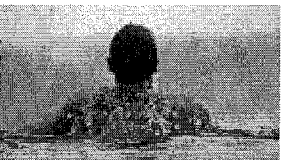
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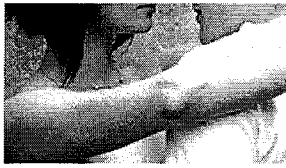
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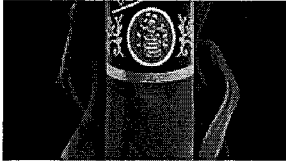
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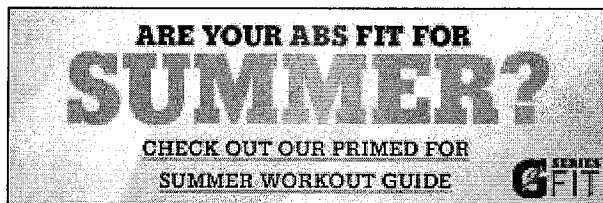


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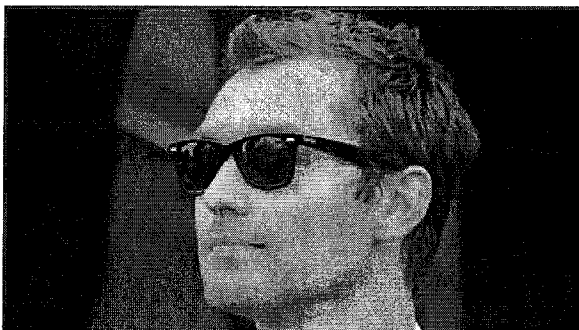


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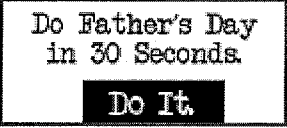




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