

The Brothers

Written and directed by Gary Harwick

A review by Demetrice Smith



It debuted in the first weekend second at the Box Office, a romantic comedy for the mature audience. "The Brothers" focuses on

the obstacles and issues of love, sex, and friendship faced by four black men in the 21st century. The movie stars Morris Chestnut (Jackson), Shemar Moore (Terry), D.L. Hugley (Derrick), Bill Bellamy (Brian), Tamala Jones (Sheila), Tatyana Ali (Cheré), Susan Dalian (BeBe) and Gabrielle Union (Denise). Some people would view the movie as an all-male "Waiting to Exhale" where sexy, successful men challenge their fear of love and honesty. From the club to the basketball court "the brothers" discuss the ups and downs of relationships with women, and as many women as possible, until playboy, Terry, decides to get engaged to his girlfriend BeBe. His friends disagree right from the start, but from surprising revelations, they learn to face the challenges of their love lives and change their dating habits forever. As the movie continues, Jackson confronts his nightmares of commitment, Derrick questions his real reasons for marriage with Sheila, Brian adjusts his attitude with women and Terry decides if he really wants to settle down.

I think that all men, especially black men, would thoroughly enjoy this movie. It creates a sense of bonding through the issues, the comedy and activities in which the men are involved. Although the movie revolves around the life of men, it brings positive subjects to the black community. It defines a life of the 'once-was-a-player, now I'm looking for love' personality, having a good career, success, a family and nice cars. I think that the lives of successful black people are not reproduced enough, and "The Brothers" has created that atmosphere where the black community can relate to actions of love, emotion and laughter.

Temptation Island

A review by Jamiyla Bolton

The reality TV era has hit hard and it hasn't stopped coming. The newest of the shows, "Temptation Island," is somewhat different from the rest. The show is based on four couples who are willing to test their relationships by being set up on dates with a variety of singles considered to be their "ideal mates." They are sent to this tropical island where they are separated from each other for two weeks. After a brief taste of the "single world," the couples decide between their new loves or their old flames.

When the show began, there were four couples, but during episode four it was revealed that Taheed and Ytossie, the only black couple on the show, had a 2-year-old child. They hid him during the screening processes. The couple was immediately notified and shipped off to another part of the island for the remainder of the show to "talk things over and rekindle their love." They were not allowed on any of the remaining episodes. Still, Fox Network in Research Triangle Park refused to air the show. It said it could not condone the break up of families.

If couples need a reason to mess around, this show gives them that leisure. None of the couples are married, and they believe they have come to a crucial point in their relationship. By 'testing the water,' they will avoid making a life-altering mistake. But with 25 eligible (and beautiful) singles around, why wouldn't they fall to temptation?

In the end all of the couples did fall in some way or another; but they forgave, forgot and are still "very much in love."

The show was such a hit in its first season that Fox has announced that there will be a "Temptation Island 2," but without couples with children this time

