



**Australian Government**  
**Classification Board**

11 January 2013

**MEDIA RELEASE**

***‘Ninja Gaiden 3: Razor’s Edge’ first R 18+ computer game in Australia***

The Director of the Classification Board, Ms Lesley O’Brien announced today that *Ninja Gaiden 3: Razor’s Edge* was the first computer game in Australia to be classified R 18+ in the newly created adult category.

The Classification Board classified the game **R 18+ (Restricted)** with consumer advice of **‘High impact bloody violence’**.

*Ninja Gaiden 3: Razor’s Edge* is an action adventure game for the Nintendo Wii U console in which players assume the role of Ryu Hayabusa, a cursed ninja battling a terrorist organisation.

Ms O’Brien said computer games classified R 18+ are legally restricted to adults.

“Under the *Guidelines for the Classification of Computer Games*, R 18+ computer games will have a high impact and it is for this reason that these games are not suitable for under 18s,” Ms O’Brien said.

“*Ninja Gaiden 3: Razor’s Edge* contains violence that is high in impact because of its frequency, high definition graphics, and emphasis on blood effects.”

When making decisions about computer games, the Classification Board must use the criteria set out in the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games Act) 1995*, the National Classification Code and the *Guidelines for the Classification of Computer Games*.

The new *Guidelines for the Classification of Computer Games* came into effect on 1 January 2013. Prior to then, Australia did not have an adult category for computer games.

Under state and territory laws it is illegal to sell R 18+ computer games to people under 18.

An application to classify *Ninja Gaiden 3: Razor’s Edge* was received by the Classification Board on 3 January 2013 from Nintendo Australia Pty Ltd and the decision was finalised today (11 January). It was classified M (for ages 17 and over) by the Entertainment Rating Software Board (ESRB) in the United States and 18+ by the Pan European Game Information (PEGI) Scheme which covers most of Europe and the United Kingdom.

‘I encourage consumers to use the National Classification Database to find out about the classifications of computer games,’ Ms O’Brien said.

The database is on the classification website at [www.classification.gov.au](http://www.classification.gov.au).

**Statement authorised by Lesley O’Brien, Director, Classification Board.**

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