Dear Parents/ Guardians of Psychology I Students,

For our last unit in Psychology I, your students are exploring different disorders within psychology, both inherited and formed through a traumatic event of some sort. In order to better get your students in the proper psychological mindset, during the unit I want to show a film to help the students better understand what it is like to have short-term memory.

The film I wish to show is the 2000 film, *Memento* with Guy Pearce. The movie follows Leonard Shelbey whose wife is murdered and while fighting the attacker is injured and consequently from the injury has short term memory. Leonard then is trying to find his wife’s murderer but cannot recall past information and facts to help him continue, so he must trust those around him and also be creative in helping himself remember.

The reason the film is unique is because the movie is shown in a fragmented reverse order. The purpose of the fragmented reverse sequencing is to force the audience into a sympathetic experience of Leonard's defective ability to create new long-term memories, where prior events are not recalled, since the audience has yet to see them. I feel this would be a good example for this unit, and would further enhance understanding of the short term memory loss and what it is like for someone who deals with it on a day to day basis.

This movie is rate R, thus the purpose of this letter. The movie is rated R for crude language and some violence. I understand the issue of showing rate R movies in a high school class, however I would not have chosen this movie if I did not truly believe that it had psychological merit and would enhance your student’s understanding of the concepts.

Below is where you can sign allowing your student to be able to view this movie. If you do not wish for your student to see this film, your students will have an alternate assignment, and will not be penalized for missing the movie. Please detach the bottom and have your student return this to me as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to e-mail me with any issues or concerns.

Thank you,

Sean Kelleher

[skelleher@sd308.org](mailto:skelleher@sd308.org)

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

* Yes, my student, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, has permission to watch this movie in his/her Sociology class.
* No, my student, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, does not have permission to watch this movie in his/her Sociology class, and will do the alternate assignment instead.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_