

## **P2730 PARENTS (USA, 1988)**

**Credits:** director, Bob Balaban ; writer, Christopher Hawthorne.

**Cast:** Randy Quaid, Mary Beth Hurt, Sandy Dennis, Bryan Madorsky.

**Summary:** Comedy/horror film set in Indiana in 1954. Moving with his parents (Quaid and Hurt) to Indiana, ten-year-old Michael Laemle (Madorsky) becomes suspicious of their nocturnal activities which include frequent bloody midnight snacks. His graphic drawings of these activities bring him to the attention of the school social worker Millie Dew (Dennis). Her visit to the Laemle home results in her death. Michael, refusing to join in his parents cannibalism, stabs his father and runs away from home which is destroyed in a gas explosion. One brief scene provides a glance at Eisenhower era attitudes which contributed to the nation's involvement in Vietnam. Mr. Laemle is employed by the Toxico Chemical Company and he demonstrates a defoliant by spraying it over a model of a Southeast Asian village.

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