IN THE HORROR GENRE

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To what extent can violent female

The portrayal of female rage in horror has a fluid and ambiguous relationship with feminism. Anger is perhaps the most suppressed emotion in women. Anger is unruly, ugly, and ultimately: powerful. It is a direct objection to patriarchal expectations of subservient femininity and exposes male fear of female power. This is not to say female anger only exists under patriarchy, but the two are closely intertwined.

ANGER & MONSTROSITY

"Powerful women-especially those whose talents are

anger in the horror genre be feminist?

How does monstrosity allow women to express anger more than their "good" counterparts?

VALIDATION OF VIOLENCE

"Action like this is despicable: Why should it be any more acceptable when it's done by women? Because it's our 'turn'? No

thank you" (Benson)

The ultimate day of

terror!"

inarguably more impressive than that of their male peers-are often perceived as monstrous or perverse... 'Madness,' a term used to designate mental illness, is also a description of anger, and for women, the two seem to be understood as related" (Traister 53) "Day of the Woman ...

FEMALE EMPOWERMENT OR **MISOGYNISTIC ENFORCEMENT?**

CINETELFILMS ANCHOR BAY



Placement emphasizes her torn underwear & bare back.

More objectifying than empowering. Highlights the voyeuristic nature of the film.

"The heroine is not simply seeking revenge; she is represented as in revolt against not just the individual rapist but

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"" "Those images which define woman as monstrous in relation to her reproductive functions work to reinforce the phallocentric notion that female sexuality is abject" (Creed 151).

also the wider misogynistic and patriarchal system" (Creed 52)

A development of depiction, but contention in feminist reception.

From 19th-century Gothic to 21stcentury horror, how has the portrayal of female anger changed in relation to feminist values?