

DUCOBU PRÉSIDENT !

Version originale: français / Sous-titres anglais



Director : *Élie Semoun*

Release date (France): *July 13, 2022*

Genre : *Comedy /Family*

Countries of origin: *France, Belgium*

Runtime : *82 min.*

North American Premiere

CLASSIFICATION



<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt19722066/parentalguide/>

Content rating

- Sex & Nudity:** None >
- Violence & Gore:** None >
- Profanity:** Mild >
- Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking:** None >
- Frightening & Intense Scenes:** None >

Sex & Nudity [+ Add an item](#)

NONE 1 of 1 found this to have none [Vote](#)

Violence & Gore [+ Add an item](#)

NONE 1 of 1 found this to have none [Vote](#)

Profanity [+ Add an item](#)

MILD 1 of 1 found this mild [Vote](#)

Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking [+ Add an item](#)

NONE 1 of 1 found this to have none [Vote](#)

Frightening & Intense Scenes [+ Add an item](#)

NONE 1 of 1 found this to have none [Vote](#)

Certifications [Edit](#)

Belgium	6
France	Tous publics
Switzerland	6

The film received the French rating “Tous publics” (label U for Universal). This means it is considered suitable for all ages.

- No specific restriction: In France, there is no legal age restriction for this film. Children of any age may attend.
- Family content and comedy: The rating is based on the film’s genre, a family comedy adapted from a comic book, which avoids violent, frightening or mature themes and images.
- Suggested age: Although the rating is “Tous publics”, analyses suggest that the film is particularly enjoyed by young children (from about 7 or 8 years old), as they better understand the jokes and the world of the Saint-Potache school.

International classification:

- In Belgium, the rating is similar (“AL” on the poster, also meaning accessible to everyone).
- The classification system varies by country, but this film is generally regarded as suitable for children internationally.

SYNOPSIS

It's back to school for Ducobu! Saint Potache Elementary School is having a special election for student body president. A wacky electoral campaign pits the two top candidates against each other: Ducobu and Leonie. With the help of his friend Kitrish and lots of clever gadgets, Ducobu cheats like crazy and wins the election. Amusement park in the schoolyard, afternoon naps, no more vegetables for school lunch... Mr. Latouche has had enough!

Studio TF1

REVIEWS

(translations)

Of course, this comic-book world has no other ambition than to entertain a young audience (a promise it keeps).

Femme Actuelle

The clan war between dunces and “teacher’s pets” leads to very comical situations, and the teacher characters, delightfully caricatured, are a real treat.

Le Parisien

Without shying away from caricature, this new instalment offers an irreverent kind of humour that children absolutely love.

Télé 7 Jours

...it has the merit of explaining to children what fake news and demagoguery are.

Télérama

DETAILS

LANGUAGE

This fourth instalment of Ducobu's adventures is adapted from the comic book *L'Élève Ducobu*, which once again features Ducobu, his sweetheart Léonie and his rival Denise in a primary school setting. The pupils speak every day, colloquial language, just like the adults.

The story about electing a president for "the school of your dreams, a school made by you and for you..." (Mr. Flartf) creates conflict-ridden situations between the candidates for the post.

The rivalry between Léonie and Ducobu

At first, they are a couple, and Léonie even asks her boyfriend to sacrifice his career in the name of their love. Things become complicated when they reveal their respective programmes: hers focuses on studying French, maths and sciences; his, a syllabus of fun.

These differences lead to the use of detailed, moral **political vocabulary**. Terms such as vote, poll, ballot box, demagoguery ("He just says whatever they want to hear"), rigged ballots, fake news ("Fake noodles," says Latouche, who has Léonie explain that these are "false information manipulate opinion"), conspiracy theories, and campaign manager (Denise) appear.

The morality or immorality of politics is shown through the low blows each candidate deals, especially on Ducobu's side. With his poster "Vote Brainy/vote Gratin," Ducobu shows Léonie picking her nose. Ducobu's father approves: all blows are allowed. Léonie calls Ducobu's move "disgusting." Ducobu retorts to Léonie: "In politics you have to roll with the punches." "Lying is bad," but cheating seems to reign, with the interference of the two adults, Mr. Latouche and Mr. Flartf.

The betrayals or conflicts in the film bring out **violent vocabulary**. Léonie and her mother talk about **destroying** Ducobu and **pulverising** him. Denise has **eliminated** one candidate and **neutralised** two others. When Mr. Latouche and the pupils are locked in the secret basement room, despair sets in: "We're screwed" "We're going to croak in this cellar," "We're all going to die."

The opposition between Mr. Latouche and Mr. Flartf gives rise to patriotic tirades and good resolutions.

- The Frenchman's distrust of the German (Second World War): Latouche says, "you do whatever you like in sauerkraut country. Here it's my country, it's my classroom," "That idiot of a German," and Mr. Flartf fires back with "that idiot Gus."
- Latouche's patriotic calls: "The call of revolt has come," "To the barricades," "Liberty! Work! Motherland!" "Chin up!"
- Mr. Flartf talks about the **anti-democratic manipulation** of children carried out by Latouche. He urges Ducobu to "set the beast inside him free."
- Ducobu does not want to be a "dictator."
- Denise calls him a "hero," an "idol."

The characters' positions touch on current issues.

- Feminism: when Ducobu asks Léonie to tidy his room, she rebels: "Do you take me for your maid?"
- Environment: Adeline Gratin no longer wants to drive the children to school. "Time to reduce our carbon footprint."
- No television in the home: because TV "makes you stupid."
- Mistreatment of pupils: Latouche pulls Ducobu's ear to punish him. The fateful order "To the corner" isolates the pupil (reversed onto Mr. Latouche in the film).
- Healthy eating/junk food: vegetables versus sausages, pizza, waffles, ice cream and sugar.

The character of Mr. Latouche on his own brings in a whole colourful vocabulary.

- Constant animal nicknames traded between Mr Latouche and his sweetheart Ghislaine Rateau: he calls her with sometimes outlandish bird names such as "my Bolivian quail" or "my bunting" She saddles him with dog names like "my poodle" or "my Dalmatian."
- As a teacher he tends to express himself with words such as "humiliation," "organisation," "discretion" rather than full sentences.
- The funny nicknames his rival gives him: Mr Latouffe/Mr Lamouffe/Babouche, etc.
- He himself has rather odd vocabulary: Mr Latouche talks about "carabistouilles," [funny business] "embrouillaminis," [free fo all] and so on.

Among the abundance of comic language to note:

- Mr Kitrish
- The whoopee cushion
- Ducobu the farting hero
- The name Léonie Gratin, which evokes both a baked dish of meat and vegetables and "the upper crust" or elite.
- The characters' names: Petitpet (pronounced "Petipète") [small fart], Mr Pector for his pectorals as he is the gym teacher, André Crot(t)in suggesting excrement or manure.
- Mr Fartf's very funny German accent.

VIOLENCE

The violence is essentially slapstick and schoolyard-style, with no blood or graphic sequences.

One of the first humorous moments is the slap that Mr. Latouche gives the principal of Saint Potache. Just as Mr. Latouche thinks he is about to catch Ducobu's drone, the classroom door opens and Mr. Latouche delivers his slap. Nothing graphic is shown, apart from the principal's cheek being a little red.

Mr. Latouche pulls Ducobu by the ear and is then accused of student abuse. It is this same teacher who is attacked by Léonie and her friend because they mistake him for a pervert following them. All the blows occur off camera. The only result is a few bruises and a scratch.

To force open the principal's office door, Mr. Flartf uses the principal's body to push against the door. Mr. Pector, the muscular gym teacher, manages to break the door. In the office there is a

brawl in which Mr. Latouche is pushed to the floor, Mr. Flartf grabs the microphone and accidentally hits the principal with it. Once again, there are no graphic details.

In the schoolyard, which has been turned into a playground, Mr. Latouche is hit on the forehead with a plastic dart and in the chest with a paintball.

Denise, Ducobu's campaign manager, is imposing because of her stature. She shoves away any students who come too close to Ducobu. She is the one who throws Petipet into the trash and forces him to reveal the secret location by stuffing his mouth with marshmallows and hanging him by the straps of his backpack on a coat rack.

Denise and Ducobu fall into the secret classroom while Denise is trying to get Ducobu to kiss her.

NUDITY

Nothing to report

SEXUAL ACTIVITY

Adeline Gratin and Hervé Ducobu are in love. They are seen in an embrace and kissing on the mouth.

Denise wants a kiss from Ducobu, but he is reluctant. She bats her eyelashes to seduce Ducobu, but he does not like this gesture.

At the beginning of the film, Léonie and Ducobu talk about their relationship as a couple, without anything happening.

Gustave and Ghislaine, otherwise known as Mr. Latouche and Ghislaine Rateau, sleep in the same bed and wear two similar pyjamas.

L'IMPACT PSYCHOLOGIQUE/LES MESSAGES

<https://www.filmspourenfants.net/ducobu-president/>

Please refer to the above- mentioned website to obtain more info on the messages about The content of the film on politics, revenge, being overweight, feminism, cheating, school,...

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT THAT MAY BE PERCEIVED AS NEGATIVE:

For children from 8–9 years old who are already familiar with schoolyard humour, the tone remains generally playful, but some may be disturbed by the repetition of mockery, bullying situations, and by an exaggerated, caricatured educator figure with very strong authoritarian traits.

The main impact concerns the normalization of aggressive behaviours (slaps, pulling ears, teasing, intimidation) shown as funny, with a risk of downplaying the seriousness of bullying or legitimizing mockery toward “weak” students or ridiculed adults.

The dunce cap, a mark of a failing student, seen in a black-and-white document, recalls the humiliating practices of the past, as well as the punishment of being sent to the “corner,” which isolates a student.

The skeleton at the back of the classroom talks.

PHOTOS



LÉONIE AND DUCOBU ARE A COUPLE



DENISE IS DUCOBU'S FRIEND AND LÉONIE'S MIGHTY RIVAL



THE SCHOOL BECOMES AN AMUSEMENT PARK. MR. KITRISH BECOMES THE NEW TEACHER



MR. LATOUCHE IS PLOTTING WITH LÉONIE AGAINST DUCOBU



RATEAU & LATOUCHE ARE A COUPLE: RATEAU IN FAVOUR OF DUCOBU & LATOUCHE IN FAVOUR OF LÉONIE



DUCOBU'S TRIUMPHANT EXIT