

# CHELMSFORD FILM CLUB

An Independent film society based in Chelmsford

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## Audience feedback: I, Daniel Blake

42 people voted. The breakdown and comments are listed below.

### 'Excellent': 32 votes

- Sad, damning commentary on modern society. When everything is reduced to ticking boxes on forms, and everyone believes the media hype (i.e. "Benefit Britain") there is no place for compassion or common sense.
- Touching, poignant, very enjoyable.
- What a marvellous opportunity of being able to see this film (though by default)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time of seeing it and it still shredded. Brilliant casting & the episodic matched the highlights that real life is like.
- Excoriating indictment of the current benefits system.
- Either 'Excellent' or 'Poor', depending on one's ideology. So, a great 'polemic'. A hundred years after "The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist", Loach has to do it again.
- Extremely powerful. Well acted, especially by the main characters. Frightening portrayal of life for many in Britain.
- Brilliant – a powerful story that needs to be told.
- Shocking, but without sensationalising. How can a "civilised" country allow good people to fall through the cracks like this? Tough, but rewarding to watch.
- Powerful, true to life – sadly. What is this country thinking of? Shameful.
- Very powerful. T. May & Co should watch this film.
- A film I was glad to see as an addition. Very powerful, and as 'good' as I'd hoped.
- A really good film. Pity about the reality.
- What an indictment of our welfare system.
- Very well done, with a touch of humour. A shocking glimpse of reality.
- Brilliant, perceptive, hardly overstated.
- A powerful & important film; we should ensure IDS sees it!!
- Eloquent and profoundly moving – quite as powerful at the second viewing. Loach's vision is undimmed!
- Hard hitting and the sad reality is that it is so true of the system.
- We should be proud of Ken Loach – from "Cathy Come Home" to "I, Daniel Blake" – and ashamed of all Governments for doing so little.
- Ken Loach captures a moment in time. Will we reflect a point when an evaluation of social need is driven by an uncaring society? An exposé all should reflect upon.
- Credit is due to Margaret Thatcher, Ian Duncan Smith, The Daily Mail, et al – without you this moving and powerful film would not have been possible.
- Very moving and a challenge to the perception of the benefits system and what we think it is!

- Shows the real effect on people not normally seen.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Britain should not be like this. Poor are treated like dirt & also victims of lies at Election Time!
- Very powerful
- No words

**‘Very Good’: 7 votes**

- Nothing has changed since “Cathy Come Home”, probably worse, in fact!
- The banality of evil...
- Politically right on. Bit clunky in places. Sometimes, the improvised moments felt phony; sometimes the sudden scripting seemed out of place. But, overall, still hard hitting.
- Searing and heart-breaking, should make one ashamed.
- I can understand why people have to apply for jobs they cannot [*do*]. If there were plenty, they would be advertised at the Job Centres.
- Thought provoking.

**‘Good’: 3 votes**

- Some genuine heart rending moments and made point well. But... just too corny and stereotyped. Compare to “Boys From The Black Stuff”?
- Having had recent experience of the indignity and iniquities of the ESA/JSA claims procedure, this film rang horribly true. Unfortunately, a bit of a didactic film with the predictable left wing Loachian slant
- Political cinema with some dramatic license in support of its ‘message’. Nothing has changed since “Cathy Come Home”

**‘Satisfactory’: 0 votes**

**‘Poor’: 0 votes**

Based on the above, the film had an overall score of 4.73.