

## NO GOOD DEED By Lorraine Viade, Psy.D.



*No Good Deed* is a predictable yet evocative movie about how bad behavior leads to bad outcomes. The phrase, “No good deed goes unpunished”, can certainly be applied to both sides of this basic, unwitting victim-meets-predator tale. Idris Elba brings a particularly restrained rage to the part of Colin Evans; such that when his anger is released, it elicits fear and terror, but not horror. It was clear to me, at least, that he achieved his murderous goals all the more easily because of how charming and manipulative his character could be. His disarmingly good looks also helped to lure and capture his prey. This abuser, who was probably abused himself, was adept at using all of his criminal assets that he sets out to find his next target. He finds her as a lonely, neglected wife and former attorney turned stay-at-home mom.

Here is an educated woman who lets down her guard in ways that you will find hard to understand, but that only serve to illustrate how we can all be played under the right circumstances. Unfortunately, he does not realize who he is up against in the body of Taraji P. Henson, who must evolve quickly or die at the hands of a sociopath. Ladies, beware.

I won't give you all the details of what happens, but I will say that it would be better for you to suspend the rules of logic and common sense for the hour and a half that you spend watching this movie. If you can do that, you will enjoy the chemistry between the two actors and just take the action at face value.

You could wait until it comes out on cable, or look for it in the discount theaters since it has been out for a while. But if you are a fan of either Elba or Henson, you should look for it.

I give *No Good Deed* three criminals. Let's be careful out there.

