

# Hopeorch OUTSIGHT

9/26/97

## DELINQUENT

Peter Hall, screenwriter and director

In Trouffant's 400 Blows, a young boy travels into delinquency. He is buffeted there by the blows society rails upon him. I never thought the pressures on the boy were real enough or the boy's reactions equitable. With Delinquent's analogous character Tim the causes, some blatant some unfortunate, are very understandable. They create motives and very real pressures. Tim's own resistance and desire to individuate before slipping into a form of delinquency are very human. The film is raised to another level with the help of an original music score from Gang of Four. Their source music and the key appearances of the score serve to heighten the emotion of the story. While observed from the outside, Tim seems psychologically aberrant, the story lets into his motivations and stresses, explaining his actions. A film of circumstances, dysfunction and the soil that makes for a warping sexuality. The surprise ending explores the nature of vengeful crime in the way The Oxbow Incident and Deliverance does. Many discussions over a beer could be had about the final, explosive scene and the causative factors. Peter Hall proves himself an insightful, talented screenwriter and an important debut director.

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