

Film Review: "*Sicario*"

"*Sicario*" is a Latin American term for assassin or "*hit-man*." It is also the title of a raw and gritty 2015 film about America's porous southern border and the Mexican drug cartels that routinely exploit it. The film was released during the Obama regime, when America's first communist, Moslem, homosexual and nigroid "*president*" invited trash from the Third World to immigrate to the U.S. by the millions, initiating our current decline now evident to anyone with a brain. The film has even greater relevance today than at the time of its initial release.

Sicario's main plot involves the activities of a federal task force whose mission is to wage war on the head of Mexico's *Sonora* drug cartel, rather than simply rely on the ineffective policy of occasionally intercepting cartel *mules* as they transport their poison across our southern border. The task force consists of DEA Agents, CIA Agents, Special Operations warriors, and two FBI Agents who have been assigned to the task force to give it legitimacy. The two FBI Agents are informed that their presence is essential because the CIA is not authorized to operate inside the U.S. without FBI participation.

The FBI contingent consists of an attractive but intense white woman named *Kate*, and her black male partner. In the film's initial scene -- before the two are assigned to the task force -- they execute a raid on a cartel "*safe-house*" in Arizona, where they discover dozens of grisly cartel murder victims entombed in its walls. However, its success is marred when two law enforcement officers are killed by an explosive device they accidentally trigger during the raid. Both FBI Agents request an FBI investigation of those murders, but Arizona's U.S. Attorney tells them to stand down on orders from Washington, and then assigns them to the joint task force. Both Agents resent the fact that they've been

inadequately briefed, and later in the film it leads to blows between those in the task force and the two FBI Agents.



***Kate* and her FBI partner**

The mission of the task force is clever: based on confessions from low-level cartel members previously arrested and interrogated, the task force has identified a Sonora Cartel lieutenant who is the equivalent of its *head-of-operations* in the U.S. Those in the task force theorize that if they intercept enough of the cartel's money and "*contraband*," its financial losses will compel the head of the cartel to summon his lieutenant back to Mexico to give a *damage report* and consider new practices to evade disruption of their activities by U.S. law enforcement. **If the task force successfully tracks this high-level cartel member to his ultimate destination in Mexico, he will have inadvertently exposed the very head of the Sonora Cartel.**

One particularly brooding and intense individual participating in the task force is a former Mexican prosecutor named **Alejandro**, whose efforts to arrest and prosecute the cartels led to his wife's rape and murder by the Sonora Cartel, and the murder of his beloved daughter when she was thrown into a vat of acid to suffer an even more horrific death. Alejandro now works for the CIA as a trained *sicario*, and his sole purpose in life is to exact revenge against the Mexican cartels and their members. His quiet intensity and stoic demeanor make the tragic loss of his family seem all the more profound.

Although the film is somewhat difficult to follow -- owing to its sophisticated plot and its abrupt cuts between scenes -- its message is succinctly summarized in the final scene. After their mission is successfully completed, Alejandro mysteriously appears in *Kate's* apartment to request that she sign a document absolving all task force participants of any illegalities. Being highly idealistic and legalistic, she initially refuses to sign until Alejandro puts a gun to her throat, at which point she tearfully signs the document under duress. As Alejandro is about to depart, he warns her that she shouldn't be involved in this kind of work because **"...this is a land of wolves, and you're not a wolf."**



Alejandro: "...you're not a wolf..."

Alejandro's remark illustrates the very real paradox that confronts America in fighting the Mexican drug cartels. He is acknowledging that an exclusively legalistic approach is hopelessly doomed to failure, and more extreme measures are necessary to combat the viciousness and malignancy of the cartels and their own, numerous *sicarios*. This insight is particularly relevant since a number of U.S. Congressmen have recently voiced support for defining the Mexican cartels as "*terrorist organizations*" and using the U.S. armed forces to eradicate them.

Arresting high-ranking drug cartel members, then granting them full rights under the Constitution -- before adjudicating their cases in American courts of law -- is like cleaning out the *Augean Stables* of Roman Mythology with a whiskbroom. The immense profits enjoyed by the cartels and the sheer volume of drugs that cross our southern border each day expose the futility of current U.S. interdiction policies. Moreover, those prosecuted for their crimes are soon replaced by equally soulless men.

No one understands the futility of an exclusively legalistic approach better than Alejandro.

-- Earl Holt III