The Origin of Hollywood Norms

It appears Hollywood is progressing when it comes to the roles women are playing, unfortunately, it doesn’t seem as though society is ready for this quite yet. I’ve heard and read so many articles and people talk about how women are action heroes, women in lead roles where they are portrayed as strong, brave, leaders without the need of a man to come in save them, how these roles are unnatural and unrealistic. How Hollywood needs to stop trying to make it happen. There seems to be a question of who establishes the norm, who sets the ideologies. It’s the age-old question of who came first, the chicken or the egg? We may never find the answer to this question, but we do know that Hollywood and its studios have one thing in mind, profit, and that’s what drives this machine.

An indicator of where society is can be based on box-office sales of movies that challenge the “norm” of romantic/romantic roles for women. I plan on talking about the challenge of aging when it comes to being a women actress and its direct correlation to the number and types of roles these women get. I’d like to also talk about the wage-gap between male and female actors. There are multiple issues in Hollywood concerning feminism and women’s rights.


Superhero Women

Women come in all shapes and sizes, but women in action movies come in just one. Usually a thin waste, big boobs, and sexy as can be. According to Kirchoff of Louder with Crowder, this is unfortunate for the feminist movement because rather than playing on women’s strengths, action movies mimic the portrayal of masculine super heroes, that in which physical strength is involved. Kirchoff concludes that women can be strong leads if they stick to more realistic traits like that of her Daredevil example, “She’s brave, smart, gutsy. She’s strong-willed. She is a hero through resourcefulness, cleverness, and provides the hero (Daredevil or The Punisher) with information required to take the enemies out.”


Let’s Talk Ageism with Tina Fey

Q: What’s the biggest challenge you’re facing now?

TINA: “The greatest challenge for me as an actress is just getting older”

Q: How so?

TINA: “Trying to play the scene at hand while also trying to hold your face up. Past-forward to being 68, and it’s a glorious act of bravery.”

Q: Do you think there are unrealistic standards in Hollywood?

TINA: “There were people on the [Golden] Globes in their twenties who were so Botoxed. In their twenties! We’ve been so conditioned now to never see a real human face, one that moves, with its original teeth. Sometimes we forget that there is a choice. I choose not to do this. It’s like wearing multiple pairs of Spanx: Good for you, not for me. Not mandatory.”

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