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Comm 450

First Draft

Racism and Stereotypes in Children’s Movies

For decades now, the film industry has been discreetly including racial stereotypes in some of the most popular film today. The industry cannot hide their beliefs and understandings of a creative norm as a lot of their films have hidden reasoning. Movies and Disney films such as Lady and the Tramp, Mulan, and the lion king have very thoughtful imagery and symbolic ways to display racial stereotypes. Highly educated people all over the world have been questioning the reasons and meaning behind the imagery and sounds in film. Their research has allowed me to come to my own conclusions about movies that are specifically meant to entertain the youth. I believe publishers are intentionally including these discrete messages and understandings of social life. Why target innocent children? Is it because they have not yet fully developed mentally? (Terms/Theory)

* Racism
* Structural Racism
* Color-blind Racism
* New racial regime
* Double consciousness

Offering both novel interpretations, because most of the movies are children’s books as well, and culturally relevant material because a stereotype, which is a form of racism, we can deeply analyze stereotypical scenes.

It is important not to lead our youth on to think this action of racism is appropriate.

I think the development of these misleading films is not fair. We cannot allow our children to grow up blind and obedient to the world’s wrong doings going on around them. We have to raise our children to be better than we were at their age. (include movies and themes)

Disney released Lady and The Tramp, a movie originally created in 1955. Over the few decades this movie has been recreated with some of the same racial social circumstances as before. In the original film, Don Halliday authored the images and persona of the Siamese cats. These two trouble makers had slanted eyes and broken English.

Color Blind Racism. The belief that one is living in a more equal and just world but show through their actions that they support the benefits of structural racism.

Structural racism. A foundation of ideologies that reinforce injustice and inequalities between racial groups.