

The bechdel-wallace test essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The Bechdel test was created in 1985, this test is a device used to demonstrate if at least two named women in a film, talk to each other, but what they talk about is something other than a man. My initial thought was this should be an easy enough test for a movie or TV Show to pass. I thought I would just choose the last three movies I have seen lately but instead I decided to make a small experiment out of it.

Being that there are three females in my house and only one male I decided to let everyone pick a movie they have seen recently that they liked and we would see it eased the three simple rules of the test. Going into this I must admit I thought my mom, sister, and I would pick the movie that passed the Bechdel test and my father would be the only one to pick the movie that failed because he is a man. It wouldn't be a great surprise if he did.

My sister who is 13 years old wanted her movie to be the Disney film "Frozen". As usual for Disney this film was about two princesses.

But to my surprise this film was different, these princesses were not being saved by some prince charming like a 'damsel in distress', nor did it end in a happily ever after marriage. The two main characters Elsa and Anna start off the film talking and playing with one another and too young to even be talking about a man.

An easy automatic pass of the Bechdel test, I find this as a great milestone for Disney we have a princess that starts as a young child just having fun and playing with her older sister and when she gets a little older and is able to leave the palace she's not all about the glitz and glam that comes with

being a princess and that her royalty life style has but as a normal teenager who's ready and excited about exploring the world.

The movie is not all based upon romantic love but more so sisterly love. It also teaches the younger children watching to not be ashamed of who they are and to accept themselves flaws and all which Else does after everyone finds out about her magical powers that she's kept a secret from people practically all of her life.

My mom picked the movie " White House Down" which is starred by Joey King (female), Jamie Fox, and Channing Tatum. This movie got two out of the three requirements to pass the test.

Although there are a few female characters with names and they do hold conversations with each other, what they talk about is a man. Even though this movie doesn't pass the test Joey King was a strong female hearted who risks her life and ultimately saves the white house at the end of the movie.

Even though the movie doesn't pass the test the female characters did not fall into the stereotype of most female characters looking for romance and love in a movie. Aka us to go see which was The Hunger Games: Catching Fire. This movie's leading role is also a female. She plays a strong person who changes the lives of others not only in her home town but in other communities around her. Catching Fire got three out of the three requirements for the Bechdel Tests there are many women in the movie who have conversations about strategies about the game they are playing which didn't include a man.

I think its great that a test like this even exist, but I wish it was an actual requirement for movies to pass the test before being released. I wish women would over come these biased sexist roles in TV shows and movies but I know its not something that can be fixed over night. It first begins with the consumers which is myself, so before I watch a TV show or movie I'm going to try to be always be mindful of this test because I think it is a great tool to use.