

Here is our final weekly project for our COMM 12 course for this term and **it's a fun one!**

Our project guidelines go like this:

Project Guidelines and Purpose: The purpose of this project is to do “critical or reflective thinking” on one of the Disney animated movies. Specifically, we want to explore the impact movies of this nature have upon our culture, communication, and stereotypes.

Some key questions for this final project:

- In your judgment, does the animated film reinforce and perpetuate stereotypes of cultural sub-groups or ethnicities?
- How does the film (films of this genre) influence you as an adult and your perception of other cultural sub-groups?
- In your estimation, does the film present cultural sub-groups and ethnicities in a positive or negative light? Why? Why not?
- If the film in your analysis does seem to perpetuate the stereotyping of a particular ethnic culture, then how might the film have mitigated this stereotyping?
- Are there “hidden” or implied stereotypes in the movie? Oftentimes, children’s stories, for example, have imbedded stereotypes. How would you deal with these stereotypes in communicating with children (and adults)?
- From an intercultural communication view, what changes might you recommend?
- How might the film affect or impact the general American culture?

Additionally:

The goal of our project this week is to recognize the strong influence animated films, especially Disney, can potentially have in stereotyping sub-cultures and ethnicities.

If you have children or access to children (nieces/nephews, etc.), you might want to watch one of the Disney animated movies with them. You might gently ask them what they liked or disliked about the movie. You might be surprised at their thoughts and ideas!

If we are alert and aware, then it can often be surprising what we can learn when children who are around us share their feelings and views. Practice your communication listening skills here!!!

Authoring the Project; Guidelines:

1. This is to be a **3-4 pages** project on the general theme of the influence of media, and specifically an analysis of a Disney animated movie.
2. APA “modified” style format as we covered earlier in the class
3. Please upload your project into the Canvas courseware system.
4. In an introduction, very briefly explain the purpose of the project.
5. One of the goals of the project is to use a Disney animated movie as a case study in analyzing stereotyping and stereotypes upon the general American culture.
6. Highlight what you learned from the movie – the challenges and problems that one often faces when seeking to communicate from one culture to another, be attuned to stereotyping.
7. For your sources, please cite our texts, the movie itself, and appropriate research from your internet search. There are project resources shown below.
8. Please use Times New Roman or Arial font style and font size of 12 pica points.

Thank you for following our project guidelines for this exciting project.

Addendum

The “power” of storytelling and the ability to “tell” stories.

I want to share that one of the **best courses** I ever had was “children’s literature and story-telling” when completing the requirements for the B. A. degree. Interestingly, senior managers who are often very effective are the managers and supervisors who communicate and share stories and not statistics.

My goal for this week’s project is to help you become more aware of the importance of stories in intercultural communication and become a better “story-teller” yourself regarding events, happenings, and experiences. Therefore, strengthening our story-telling skills and abilities provides a communication platform for becoming more effective in our professional communications, career effectiveness, and personal satisfaction. Importantly, effective stories can and should be free of stereotypes and stereotyping.

Here’s why: In the business and industry, people remember positive stories and not statistics. I love (and teach) business statistics, but my experience as a CFO is that folks will always remember and recall a well-told story verses remembering a particular statistic per se. The ability and skill to communicate stories are exceedingly valuable in a variety of venues and scenarios.

In sum, this project also helps us to more fully understand the power and influence of stories as communicated through media and animated films upon us.

RESOURCES:

1. TEXT

There is an excellent section on stereotypes in our intercultural communication text, pps 41-47.

1. SHORT VIDEOS YOUTUBE.COM

Disability in Film - (Movie promo) Stereotypes

6,108 views

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[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Published on Sep 27, 2012

SUBSCRIBE 30K

Actors Robert David Hall, Danny Woodburn, Kurt Yaeger and Marlee Matlin are featured in this discussion on stereotyping of disabled people in the movies, part of TCM's October programming "The Projected Image: Disability In Film", Wednesday evenings throughout the month. For more information, please visit tcm.com/dif Subscribe at <http://spr.ly/6017cTBT> [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

to watch more great classic film clips every day.

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STEROTYPES IN FILM

Stop Giving Oscars to Actors Who Play the Disabled. Let the Disabled Play Themselves.

24,191 views

1K383SHARE

[Big Think \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
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Published on Apr 5, 2015

SUBSCRIBE 2.2M

Outside of RJ Mitte, who played Walt Jr. on Breaking Bad, there are very few actors with disabilities who get the chance to tell their own stories on television. Actress and comedian Maysoon Zayid, who like Mitte was born with cerebral palsy, discusses her disability in this Big Think interview while also stressing the importance of positive media portrayals of people with disabilities. "When you do see disability on television," she says, "we're reduced to two storylines. Either 'heal me' or 'you can't love me because I'm disabled.'" Zayid hopes someday soon television will make a stronger commitment to actors with disabilities. Read more at BigThink.com: Follow Big Think here: YouTube: <http://goo.gl/CPTsV5> [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site. \(Links to an external site.\)](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

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Maysoon Zayid: I have cerebral palsy, which is a neurological disorder, also it's a traumatic brain injury that happens either in utero, during the birthing process or within the first couple of months of life. So, a 26-year-old can't get cerebral palsy. It's not genetic. You can't catch it. Even though I have seen people become a bit more silly around me it's not contagious I promise. My cerebral palsy happened during birth. The doctor who delivered me was drunk and I came out fist first ready to fight the power and he panicked and cut my mom six different times in six different directions. And as a result, I lost oxygen. That loss of oxygen damaged the part of my brain that handles coordination. And as a result, I shake all the time. Now, it's really important to remember cerebral palsy is a spectrum so different people with CP have different symptoms, they

have different abilities. Some people use wheelchairs; some people are mobile; some are verbal, some are nonverbal. That doesn't mean that we're intellectually superior in anyway to our counterparts who have less or more ability, but cerebral palsy can also happen alongside other disabilities. So, there are people with CP and mental illness, there are people with CP and respiratory problems and there are people like me who just have CP. And I work really hard to keep my health up. And I think that having a disability is often thought of as like this poor person and she's always struggling. And I don't really think of my CP that way. I think of it as part of me. It doesn't define me. There are days where I hate it and there are days where I don't even think about it. [transcript truncated] Directed / Produced by Jonathan Fowler, Elizabeth Rodd, and Dillon Fitton

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Opportunity for disabled actors with RJ Mitte

8,355 views

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[BBC Newsnight \(Links to an external site.\)](#) [Links to an external site.](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

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Published on Jan 14, 2015

SUBSCRIBE 220K

Evan Davis discusses opportunities for disabled actors with Breaking Bad's RJ Mitte and Hollywood Reporter writer Leslie Felperin. Follow @BBCNewsnight on Twitter <https://twitter.com/BBCNewsnight> [\(Links to an external site.\)](#) [Links to an external site.](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#) [\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

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