

# Media Literacy Reel Stories



What is a movie or television show you've watched recently?

What do you like about it? What do you dislike?

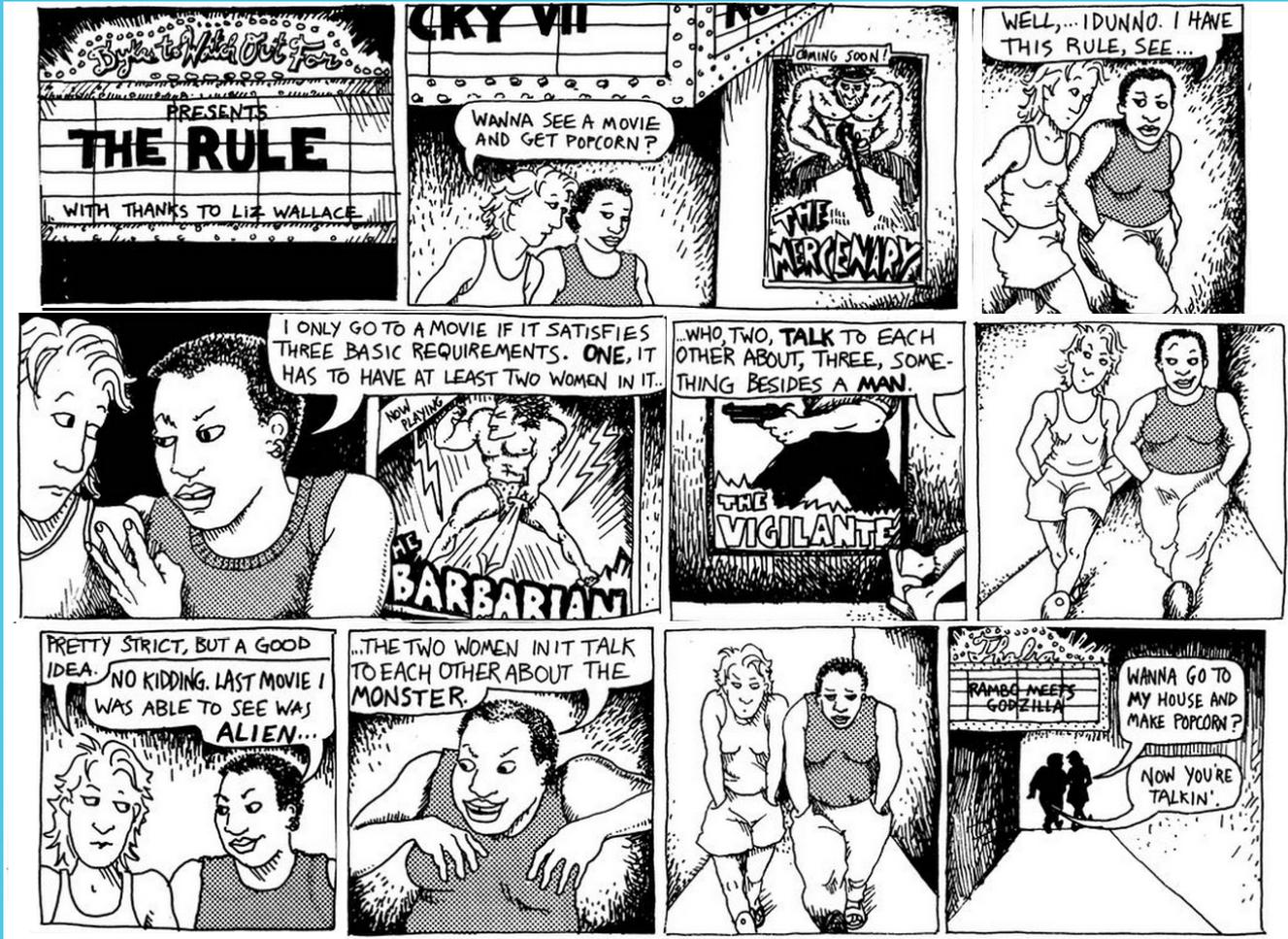
Can you relate to any of the characters or stories?

Do the people on screen look like you?



# The Bechdel Test

Original comic by Alison Bechdel



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# Can you name the three rules of the Bechdel Test?

1. Are there two or more women in it who have names?
2. Do they talk to each other?
3. Do they talk to each other about something other than a man?



## Can you name some movies that pass the Bechdel Test?

- Wonder Woman
- Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol 2
- Despicable Me 3
- Frozen
- Black Panther
- Coco



# Let's name some titles that DON'T Pass

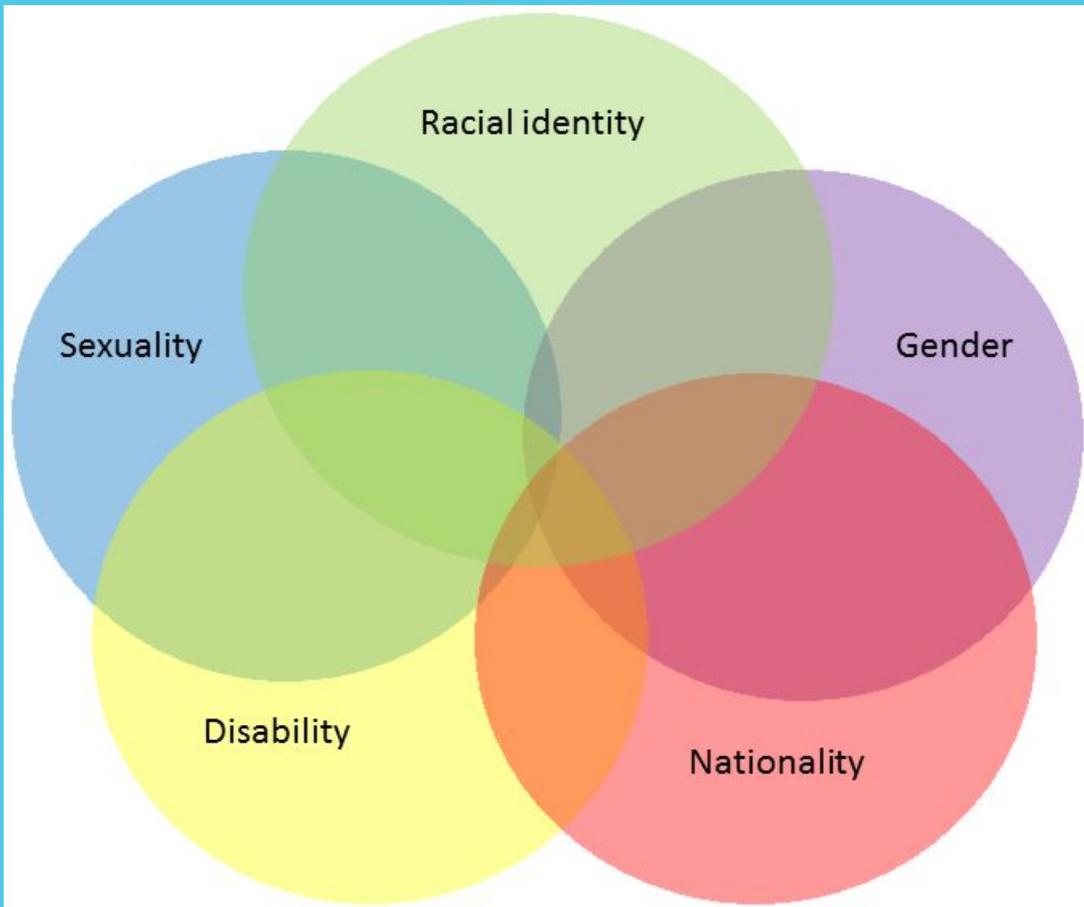
- Baby Driver
- Thor: Ragnarok
- Dunkirk
- Manchester by the Sea
- Beasts of No Nation
- Creed
- Toy Story



# Intersectionality

- Term created by Kimberlé Crenshaw (law professor, critical race theory and Black feminist scholar) in 1989
- Crenshaw originally used “Intersectionality” to describe the overlapping oppression she faces as a Black woman – she faces sexism as a woman, and racism because she is Black, and she does not experience these modes of oppression independent of each other
- Watch how Crenshaw describes intersectionality today: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ViDtnfO9FHc>
- All of our identities intersect to make up our individual experiences and perspectives. Oppression and privilege is multifaceted





These are just a few aspects that can intersect to make up a person's identity and influence their experiences.

What are some aspects that are missing?

If you were going to make this chart, what would you add?





## Who is often given the spotlight in media?

Men, non-disabled people,  
white people, people who speak English,  
attractive people, rich people, literate people,  
straight people, cisgender people,  
privileged people

Think of some examples of people who are not typically represented in media, or who are represented poorly in media.

Why do you think this is?

Why is it important for there to be diversity in media?

Who is making media? What types of people are given opportunities to create media?



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# Who is creating the media you watch?

Think of five movies or television shows you've watched within the last year. Look up their cast and crew on IMDB. Ask yourself:

- How many people in the cast and crew are white, male, non-disabled, wealthy, non-immigrant, and straight?
- How many women are in the cast and crew? How many are BIPOC?
- Are there any out LGBTQ+ people in the cast or crew? Are any of them transgender or non-binary?
- Does the identities of the characters on screen intersect with the identities of the cast and crew?

Although some shows hire extremely diverse casts and crews, many do not. How does this affect the stories that are told? Who is being left out?

