

The Sociological Concepts in Movie -*Moxie*

Guanlin Jiang (21093962D)

Department of Computing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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Kai Chung YEUNG

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Introduction

How Movie *Moxie* shows the sociological concepts? In *Moxie*, the story that happened inside the movie display a lot of social issues that about this society. Racism, gender equality, sexism, social identity, and campus bullying occur in the *Moxie*, and those social issues profoundly affect this world a lot. This paper will be connected with the movie *Moxie* to talk about those issues with some sociological concepts.

Racism

Racism is a kind of bad social issue in this society. According to the academic dictionary, “behavior or attitudes that reflect and foster this belief: racial discrimination or prejudice” (Merriam-Webster, n.d., para.2). Racial discrimination is usually manifested by people’s behaviors and attitudes, and some people will use words or some behaviors to attack people of another less powerful race or people who have different cultural backgrounds and different opinions. According to the report from U.S. Department of Education, educational opportunities are still severely unfairly distributed due to differences in races. The report points out that the number of black people who get the high advanced course credits only just have about 50% (U.S. Department of Education, 2019). That shows that racism still happens in this society, even in the education area. In the movie *Moxie*, a black girl said, “I just want to say, I am 100 percent black, my hair is not a wig, not diaper, it’s thick, it’s curly, and it’s who I am. And no, you cannot touch” (Poehler, 2021, 01:41:43). The girl who said this may have been racist before, and she felt helpless. Racism is a social problem that needs to be solved, the influence of the surrounding environment causes this kind of social problem. Also, racism has caused a lot of harm to some people, and Vivian’s *Moxie* organization gave them a platform to speak out, which is also a way to go against the racist people.

Gender Equality & Sexism

Sexism in society is discrimination based on the genders and the person. According to a professional news platform, “Sexism is prejudice and discrimination against people based on their sex or gender” (Villines, 2021, para. 5). “Gender equality requires equal enjoyment by women and men of socially-valued goods, opportunities, resources and rewards” (United Nations Population Fund, 2005, para. 2). Gender rights which related to gender equality, which needs everyone to treat people of all genders equally and not bullying and different sexist gender. In the movie *moxie*, Mitchell, because of the inequality of the opposite sex, has triggered the moxie feminist organization formed by female classmates to complain about gender inequality (Poehler, 2021, 00:23:11). Because of their body features, some girls are not typical, so some people use words to attack or tease them, completely ignoring the girl’s feelings. Gender equality requires everyone to observe and treat gender differences and to face the differences of each gender.

Social Identify

“Social identity is a person’s sense of who they are based on their group membership” (McLeod, 2019, para. 1). Social identity always happens when a group of people finds that they have similar features, like characters, gender, or the same things that happen in their lives. Normally, if the number of people who identify with the identity is large, it will be set up to oppose their opposition. Social identity is clearly shown in *Moxie*, the girl Vivian formed the Moxie Women's Rights Organization and invited students who suffer from the same gender discrimination or who are tired of gender inequality to join. After Vivian secretly established an organization, many girls joined her organization to speak out for women’s rights (Poehler, 2021, 00:25:53). In this movie, people can feel a lot of social identify, because everyone’s experience and environment are the same. Because of everyone’s strong

support and consistency of goals, everyone begins to have a sense of identity. Social identity is a community that people can fit in with or suitable for some people to be the teams.

Campus Bullying

Campus bullying is a very serious school social problem. In common situations, according to the research, campus bullying is always because of students' physical appearance, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, and religion (University of The People, n.d., para. 18). Also, according to the statistical agency, the students who are between 12-18 years old in the US already had more than 20% being bullied (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, n.d., para. 13). In the movie *Moxie*, Lucy meets Mitchell, the school America football team captain, while buying a drink from a vending machine. Mitchell spit in Lucy's drink (Poehler, 2021, 00:13:11). Also, a girl reveals, in front of all the student body, that she was raped by the football captain (Poehler, 2021, 01:39:32). Those things formed that campus bullying is not only fighting, also include sexual assault and contempt. The problem of campus bullying requires students to have the courage to stand up and point out the person who bullied the mentally disabled. The school must also treat and identify campus violence incidents correctly in order to reduce the occurrence of incidents.

Conclusion

Racism, gender equality, sexism, social identity, and campus bullying are social issues in this society. The Movie *Moxie* connect that those social issues are not born with it, but it's changed through the influence of the environment. The Moxie organization created by Vivian let the girls who have suffered this talk about it and resist, which reflects those girls should be brave enough to express their feelings.

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