**Media**

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During the 21st century, films have changed, in gender stereotypes. These stereotypes have been shaped by each individual genre, in this case masculinity in the action genre. This is shown in the majority of action films, usually displayed by a male character who is very muscular and attractive. Throughout the James Bond film Skyfall this stereotype of a strong and muscular male figure has been challenged. There are many scenes throughout the film that challenge this stereotypes but in this essay, only two scenes will be analysed on how they challenge the gender stereotypes that have been used for decades in film.

One of the most major scene of any bond film is where the villain is introduced, in Skyfall this scene is no different. This scene is very powerful in the way that Silva is able to take away all of bonds power without having to fight him. This challenges the male gender stereotype as one of the most prominent traits of a dominant male character in the spy action genre is that that person is very powerful and is able to get themselves out of any situation, but in this scene, we see bond completely powerless and unable to get out of the situation that he is in. This scene also challenges many other stereotypes and typical scenes in the spy-action genre. Normally in a spy-action film when the main character is captured he would be tortured and physically abused, but in this scene, we see Bond not being tortured but Silva is playing mind games with Bond he traces his finger along Bonds collarbone to confuse him and make him feel powerless. This scene in Skyfall challenges the male gender stereotype in the spy-action genre in many ways and is a turning point for stereotypes in the spy-action film genre.

One of the most prominent traits displayed in the male gender stereotype is that the male is emotionless, he is able to kill hundreds of people and it wouldn’t affect his mental state at all. Throughout all of the bond films it is extremely rare for bond to show emotion he is usually displayed as a person with no emotion. In all of the movies he is capable of kill masses of people sometimes in the most brutal of ways and after these fight Bond constantly shows no sign of mental distress. Even when his friends die (i.e. in quantum of solace Bonds friend is killed by the police) he doesn’t display any signs of mental distress he simply deals with the situation and moves on and not once does he stop and seem confused or scared or sad. But now in Skyfall Bond’s boss M is killed at the end of the movie and this death to his boss that he sees as a mother figure causes him to display trait of a person with mental distress (eyes become teary, disbelief). This is a massive breakthrough in terms of gender stereotypes as it allows for the film producers to go more in depth into this new side of bond more emotional side that has been opened up by this scene. This scene is an incredibly influential and has potentially changed the way that film producers develop the characters in the spy-action genre and could bring the divide in character creation between male and female characters closer.

In conclusion the film Skyfall is an incredibly influential movie that has broken through many gender stereotypes that have been used for years in the spy-action genre to create characters and hopefully after the films success more film producers will challenge gender stereotypes in the way that they construct scenes and characters in there films.