

## **Damian Sclafani – Response Assignment**

For this response, I will be talking about the methodologies used in *Out of Sight* that would slightly yield to some stereotyping due to the roles that some of the characters play. I believe that there can be some stereotypes given in this film; however, there is plenty of information that goes against those stereotypes as well.

*Out of Sight* has some resemblances of stereotyping. An example of this would be the roles that some of the characters are given. Maurice and his gang for the big examples of stereotyping given in this film. Maurice and his friends are close to the stereotypical black characters due to them living in a ghetto, going to prison, and committing heavy crimes. Along with that, the one white guy that is in their group is literally named “White Boy Bob”. This heavily implies a stereotyping to the group since it seems like the one white guy in the group is looked down upon by that group due to him being white rather than black. The same thing can be said about Glenn too. When Glenn joins up with Maurice to steal the diamonds, Maurice shows that he does not care for Glenn that much at all. He does this by making fun of Glenn and turning Glenn’s plan into his own new plan. Maurice and his allies are also shown to be the main antagonists of the film too, which can resemble one last stereotype for this group.

Although there are quite a lot of stereotypes in this film, there are also many aspects of the film that divert from these stereotypes. For instance, two of the main protagonists of this film are Jack Foley and Buddy Bragg, one white guy and one black guy. Buddy is seen as one of the good characters in this film, even though he is assisting Jack Foley in his crimes. The even split in races gives a better sense of equality among them, which means less stereotyping. While Maurice has his own agency, so does Jack. These agencies are very different from each other in

the way that they treat their people, which is why Maurice has lots of typical stereotyping around him while Jack has little to none.

In “Race at the Movies”, four categories of analyzing black versus white characters were established. These categories involved screen time, occupation/role, behavior, and grammar. In regard to screen time, most of the side story, the romance part, only involved Jack and Sisco. However, throughout the main plot of the movie, the other characters all get their respective screen time. As previously stated, the roles of the black characters in this film are the criminal roles; Buddy is no exception. However, the main character, Jack Foley, is also a criminal. This means that it makes sense for the movie to all be revolved around criminals. Therefore, the roles of the black characters are not bad in relation to most of the other characters in this film since most of them are criminals; Sisco being the main exception to this. The behavior is where stereotyping is a bigger aspect. Even though Jack is a criminal just like the other characters, he is more sophisticated than seemingly the rest of the cast. Although, this does not seem to give Jack much of a huge advantage over Maurice when conflict arises between them. Maurice’s behavior in this film is what anyone would expect out of a hardened criminal. He is not the most friendly person and is constantly talking down to others like White Boy Bob and Glenn. Finally, the grammar some of these characters use is very stereotypical. As stated before, Jack is more sophisticated. Therefore, not only is Jack’s grammar very good, but he is persuasive because of the way he speaks. When comparing this to Maurice’s grammar, it is basically the opposite. Maurice uses lots of slang and is made to seem like he came right out of prison.

In conclusion, there is quite a lot of stereotyping used in *Out of Sight*; however, there is a lot of aspects of the film that can contradict this fact as well. Lastly, I believe that even if Entman

and Rojecki's results were made in 2018 that they would be different. Studies like these enforced lots of diversity among films like *Out of Sight*. Therefore, the results could differ by a lot.