

# [***‘My sons hated it’ … Shakira says Barbie film is ‘emasculating’***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BPF-XSC1-DY4H-K393-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Byline:** Andrew Pulver

**Highlight:** The Colombian pop star – and mother of two boys – disliked the global blockbuster, saying its message robs men of chance to ‘protect and provide’

**Body**

In an unlikely dissension from what has become a critical and commercial consensus, Colombian musician Shakira has said that the ***Barbie*** movie is “emasculating” and suggested that it “rob[s] men of their possibility to be men”.

[*In an interview with Allure magazine*](https://www.allure.com/story/shakira-cover) that focused on the “she-wolf feminism” behind her work, Shakira said she had watched the Greta Gerwig-directed satire and said: “My sons absolutely hated it. They felt that it was emasculating. And I agree, to a certain extent.”

She added: “I like pop culture when it attempts to empower women without robbing men of their possibility to be men, to also protect and provide. I believe in giving women all the tools and the trust that we can do it all without losing our essence, without losing our femininity. I think that men have a purpose in society and women have another purpose as well. We complement each other, and that complement should not be lost.”

Shakira’s views on ***Barbie***, which has so far [*grossed $1.4bn at the worldwide box office*](https://www.the-numbers.com/movie/Barbie-(2023)#tab=summary) , have been endorsed by a number of conservative commentators, including Piers Morgan, who [*posted a message on social media*](https://twitter.com/piersmorgan/status/1774843201805017510) saying: “Hurrah for @shakira – finally, a high-profile woman prepared to stand up for men being men.”

Other negative observers of ***Barbie*** have included film-maker Oliver Stone, who criticised actor Ryan Gosling for “doing that shit for money”. Stone [*later apologised*](https://www.theguardian.com/film/2024/jan/23/i-apologise-for-speaking-ignorantly-oliver-stone-backtracks-over-barbie-comments) shortly before the Oscars, saying he “appreciated the film for its originality and its themes” and that he had been “speaking ignorantly”.

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