The definition of ideology as published by dictionary.com roughly translates to the implemented, spoken or unspoken, system of ideas, principles, beliefs, or morals- specifically those relating to political, economic, or social theory. On this basis, Biskind’s claim that movies of any specific era conveying an ideology is supported by the fact that, as he states, “movies influence manners, attitudes, and behavior” (Biskind, par. 2). Movies across all time periods have said and depicted how we, as members of society, should act, react, and overall be through the use of symbols, rhetoric, and cinematic organization.

Biskind, in his composition, referred several times to the conflicting dichotomies presented throughout 1950s media and entertainment; conformity vs dissent, acceptance vs persecution of differences, traditional vs revised family values. In class we also discussed the later representations of the 1950s through films, one example being Grease. I thought it was interesting to analyze the representation of “Sandy” compared to the rest of the “Pink Ladies,” in regards to the conflicting views common in this time period. They showed Sandy originally as this sexually-innocent, family-focused, academically-persuaded, naive female. Then, throughout the progression of the movie you get to know the climate of the teenage social scene and start to see a change of values. However, the representation of these change in values is still relatively harmless- it’s reflected on positively. Like we discussed in class, the resolutions during this time period were still tidy, neat, and optimistic though the political and social climate was anything but tidy and neat. I thought this was intriguing due to the social upheaval leading into the 1960s and 70s about the change in teenage values/roles. I wonder what a movie with a similar plot line to Grease would have been like if it was moved back a decade or two. Would this view of the naïve-to-wild role change be reflected on less positively/lightheartedly?