Bechdel Test

Gauging gender bias in films

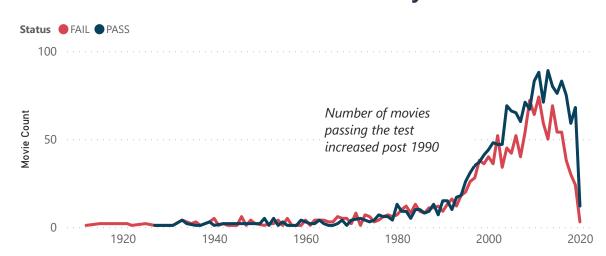
Bechdel Criteria

Bechdel Test is used to gauge gender bias in films by measuring female representation. For a film to pass the Bechdel test, it has to meet the following simple criteria -

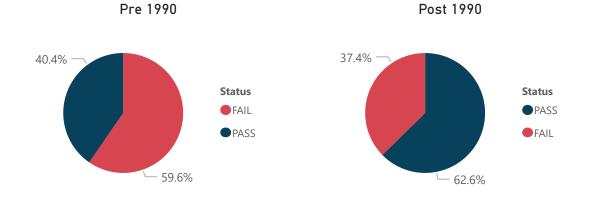
- 1) Two female characters
- 2) Who talk to each other
- 3) About something other than a man

We've reviewed over 3,000 films over the past 100 years of filmmaking to see how & why films have failed the Bechdel criteria

How have films fared over the last 100 years?



We observe that the number of movies passing the test increased after 1990. To validate this statement, we check the proportion of movies passing the test pre & post 1990



Why movies fail the Bechdel Criteria: An analysis of the criteria



84%

of the movies have 2 or more women (first criteria)



26%

But only in 26% of the movies, women talk to each other (second criteria)

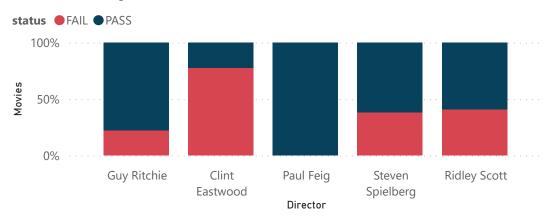


100%

And all 100% of the women who talk to each other, talk about a man (third criteria)

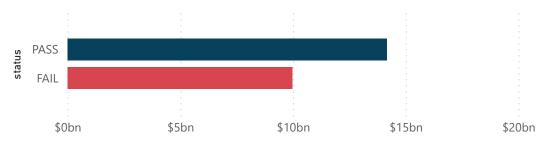
This could probably mean women take up secondary roles in male centric movies

How do top Directors fare in the Bechdel Test?



The above chart lists the top 5 directors in terms of number of movies made. Amongst them, Clint Eastwood has the lowest proportion of movies that pass the Bechdel Test, whereas Paul Feig has all his movies passing the Bechdel Test

Does the Bechdel Test affect profits?



We can see that the movies that pass the Bechdel Test make higher profits. This encourages women involvement in movies for higher revenue