

1 Description - Gender Inequality in Movies

There has been an persistent debate of gender inequality in several aspects of life, such as education, salary as well as representation within different job fields¹. E.g. there is still a tendency of women being largely represented when it comes to care-taking jobs, e.g. nursing and kindergarten teachers, whereas males usually are largely represented within management, military professions, among others.

So this raises the question of where these different perceptions in society come from. Different kinds of media here can be seen as portraying mechanism that creates and further deepens those views of society. With this paper, we want to examine how the medium of movies contribute to this unequal depiction of genders. Therefore, we examine several indicators of movies that might impact these inequality in perception. Among others, we consider how the ratio of females and males have changed through time. We find this question interesting, since it relates to the debate of gender inequality. In order to analyze this question we have used data scraped from www.imdb.com, where based on the names of the cast the gender is concluded. For this, the development over years as well as variation across different genres are analyzed by use of descriptive statistics. Moreover, text classification will be used to investigate the short summaries of the movies and see whether there are words or types of words that are frequently used to describe movies with mainly female or male stars. The reasoning for this analysis is to examine whether actors of different genders are described differently in these summaries.

¹ Evans, 2017