

1. we are talking about treachery and peoples relationships.

1. McCarthyism - spying people, weak people
2. Paranoia, and how government did everything to spy on each other
3. Nation is rising, but it seems like broken hopes and dreams are main thing

### Rising Nation, Degrading People

This film was released in the 1950s, more accurately 1954. The era after world war II has ended, and the new war (cold war) has started between allies. During this time, the United States, as any other country that participated in the war, was facing serious issues with the economy and society. Apart from those problems, a new threat to the American Capitalism was rising. A communistic Soviet Union. The consequence of the tension between two global powers and their ideologies, pushed both countries to take actions against the practice of ideologies in each other.

The United States, as an example, setted up something called McCarthyism, a tribunal system that had a goal to wipe out communist from capitalist society. At this period of time, people got distrustful of each other. Spying, mistrust and treachery rose between them, even though it seemed like the nation was rising, people's relationships got worse. In the film 'Rear Window' by James Jefferies such an 'attitude' is demonstrated by the main hero, who constantly spies on his neighbours, and breaks all ethics of privacy that could possibly exist. And the worse part of all this, is that the main hero is not reflecting on his actions. As an example, when his fiance, Lissa says "*Then you get to lookin' out the window. See things you shouldn't see. Trouble. I can see you in court now, surrounded by a bunch of lawyers in double-breasted suits. You're*

*pleading: 'Judge, it was only a little bit of innocent fun.'.* Then the question arises, maybe those are people that are to blame for paranoia and mistrust, maybe it is the society based on individualism?

Unfortunately, it may not be true. In the film, the neighborhood where the main hero resides is called "Greenwich Village", a suburban area built in such a way that apartments were tightly built together. This type of building got popular after WWII, when soldiers (like Jeff) started returning to their homes. The closely packed and crowded Greenwich Village apartment complex of the film was chosen to show the physical proximity of those residential areas, in order to reinforce the feeling of constant surveillance and paranoia. Thus, one may say that the government that is responsible for the residential buildings built apartments in such a way, so that people could spy and report on each other. In the film, when Jeff says *"That's no ordinary look. That's the kind of look a man gives when he is afraid somebody might be watching him."* he clearly states that people are aware of them being surveilled, they got used to being surveilled.

People as no other contestant make up the nation, hence they are the ones to rule it. Hitchcock, on the other hand, tells us a completely different and more realistic story. Based on many elements of the film, Hitchcock portrays US people in the form of Jeff. The person who gave his all to protect the nation, but ended up in the wheelchair. Similar to Jeff who can only gaze through his window into this world, so where the majority of US people during the age of the Cold War. They could not do anything, other than watching what is done by politicians. *"We've become a race of Peeping Toms. What people ought to do is get outside their house and look in for a change."* - Stella

That is the thriller "Rear Window" by Hitchcock. A small universe inside a small apartment complex that represents that world around it. The reality that hits us while watching

the film, can't just leave us without any effect. All those social, political messages with relation to the government of the United States of America during the period of 1950's, are still relevant today, during the age of the modern digital era. Lessons learned from this film must not be forgotten, so as the bucket of emotions we've got as the present. This is another reason, why this movie still has a large influence on the society of our era.