Now that we have demonstrated our very own interpretation of *Zootopia* regarding its thematic message: racism and stereotypes, I would like to present thoughts of both the directors of the film and the audience, including the film critics.

First and foremost, here are the intentions of the directors of the film themselves. *Zootopia* was directed by two significant figures of the Walt Disney Animation Studios: Byron Howard and Rich Moore. Howard most famous for co-directing *Bolt* (2008) and *Tangled* (2010) and Moore best known for Disney’s *Wreck-It Ralph* (2012) and television shows *The Simpsons*, *The Critic*, and *Futurama*. They were initially inspired to confront issues such as race and class thanks to the department heads trip to Kenya early on in the production as they observed a group of animals (both predators and prey) drinking water around the watering hole together. They perceived this as an interesting social handshake in the wildlife, very much like the human world, where people who don’t see eye to eye and have different points of view put them aside and live together. Hence, this is how *Zootopia* turned out to be what they meant it to be (although whether their goals were met or not may differ from person to person): a story about injustice, discrimination, and racism, and *not*, I directly quote Moore, “another funny animal movie”. Moore and Howard intended to portray injustice, discrimination, and racism as honestly as possible because these issues are real and they felt the need to prepare young people for the world ahead of them. While showing the young audience the “pitfalls and dangers of life”, they wished to also convey a feeling of hope with the happy ending*.* In order to make the story just right, the film went through major changes in its production process. For example, a former version included a city where predators were treated poorly by the prey population (the majority) and the predators had to wear the “tame collars” that gave them “shock” whenever they became too excited or violent in order to keep prey animals safe and comfortable. However, because it was too “in your face” and “dystopian”, they cut out this entire part. Plus, they changed the main character from Nick to Judy in order for Judy to discover the oppression and the stereotyping as she tracks her case and realizes that it exists in her as well. Like this, for more than 2 years and a half, team *Zootopia* was dedicated to producing a film that “correctly” deals with these serious authentic issues, with the ultimate aim of spreading the message of working together and understanding each other.

Moreover, the film generally received positive response from the audience with the approval rating of 98% on the Rotten Tomatoes (an American review-aggregation website) and 8.4 out of 10 on Daum Movies Review. The critical consensus of the audience is that *Zootopia* provides a thoughtful message which is rich and timely while simultaneously remaining fast and funny. Film critics such as Genzlinger of The New York Times, Travers of Rolling Stone, Debruge at Variety all similarly praised the film for being thought-provoking, subversive, and compelling with its timely message about the harm of prejudice in the xenophobic political rhetoric (especially with Trump’s unexpected success in the US presidential election in November 2016).