**Spellcheck For Bias: *ANGELS***

Geena Davis Institute for Gender in Media

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**Overview**

The purpose of this report is to identify opportunities for content creators to diversify character representations. This report measures representations of six identities in the script *ANGELS* for LIONSGATE:

* [Gender](#7rdsrmby8a10)
* [Race/Ethnicity](#km0uzj1c47vm)
* [LGBTQ+](#l5fofjr5yyu7)
* [Disability](#phoxthamc9m4)
* [Age (50+)](#w6ssfbo3nmng)
* [Body Size](#ua15q4ot3gj6)

**Methodology**

Spellcheck for Bias is based on inventions and software developed at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering. For this report, we analyze characters who spoke 1 lines of text or more. In *ANGELS*, 52 characters met this criterion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER NAME** | **LINE COUNT** |
| ED | 260 |
| SHARON | 243 |
| BARBARA | 144 |
| ROSE | 77 |
| BOB GREEN | 45 |
| MICHELLE | 41 |
| ASHLEY | 38 |
| AMY CHAN | 29 |
| ED SENIOR | 15 |
| MINISTER THOMAS | 13 |
| MRS. ALLEN | 13 |
| ALBERT | 10 |
| KELVIN | 10 |
| HELICOPTER PILOT | 10 |
| DR. GHORBANI | 9 |
| WOMAN 1 | 7 |
| SECRETARY | 7 |
| CASHIER | 6 |
| SECRETARY #2 | 6 |
| SECRETARY #3 | 6 |
| AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER | 6 |
| TERESA | 5 |
| WOMAN 2 | 4 |
| MARCUS | 4 |
| AVIATION GUY | 4 |
| FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR | 4 |
| MINISTER’S WIFE | 4 |
| DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (o.s.) | 3 |
| CAREGIVER | 3 |
| BILLING CLERK | 3 |
| ED’S NEIGHBOR | 3 |
| DOCTOR #2 | 3 |
| BIKER GUY | 2 |
| LOIS | 2 |
| UNCLE AL | 2 |
| JASON | 2 |
| CLIENT | 2 |
| ASSISTANT | 2 |
| BILL | 2 |
| TRAFFIC REPORTER | 2 |
| PRODUCER | 2 |
| A.M. RADIO | 2 |
| CLERK | 1 |
| ANOTHER RELATIVE | 1 |
| HARD HAT GUY | 1 |
| JOGGER | 1 |
| HOMEOWNER | 1 |
| BANK REP | 1 |
| DIANE | 1 |
| SECRETARY #1 | 1 |
| OFFICE ASSISTANT | 1 |
| WIFE | 1 |

Automated coding is combined with expert human coding to generate the quantitative and qualitative analysis below.

**Gender Analysis**

***For comparison, women constitute 51% of the U.S. population.***

* 21 characters are specified as female.
* The leading character is male.
* The script contains 14 character opportunities to increase gender diversity.

Characters by Gender

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FEMALE CHARACTER** | **MALE CHARACTER** | **GENDER UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | ED |  |
| SHARON |  |  |
| BARBARA |  |  |
| ROSE |  |  |
|  | BOB GREEN |  |
| MICHELLE |  |  |
| ASHLEY |  |  |
| AMY CHAN |  |  |
|  | ED SENIOR |  |
|  | MINISTER THOMAS |  |
| MRS. ALLEN |  |  |
|  | ALBERT |  |
|  | KELVIN |  |
|  | HELICOPTER PILOT |  |
|  | DR. GHORBANI |  |
| WOMAN 1 |  |  |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
| CASHIER |  |  |
| SECRETARY #2 |  |  |
| SECRETARY #3 |  |  |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
| TERESA |  |  |
| WOMAN 2 |  |  |
|  | MARCUS |  |
|  | AVIATION GUY |  |
| FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |  |  |
| MINISTER’S WIFE |  |  |
| DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |  |  |
|  |  | CAREGIVER |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |  |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  | BIKER GUY |  |
| LOIS |  |  |
|  | UNCLE AL |  |
|  | JASON |  |
| CLIENT |  |  |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  | BILL |  |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  | HARD HAT GUY |  |
|  | JOGGER |  |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
| DIANE |  |  |
| SECRETARY #1 |  |  |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
| WIFE |  |  |

The See Jane Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the See Jane test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is a woman who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with gender stereotypes or tropes. |



**Race/Ethnicity Analysis**

***For comparison, people of color constitute 38% of the U.S. population.***

* 7 characters are specified as characters of color.
* The leading character is has an unspecified race/ethnicity.
* The script contains 45 character opportunities to increase racial/ethnic diversity.

Characters by Race/Ethnicity

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER OF COLOR** | **WHITE CHARACTER** | **RACE/ETHNICITY UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | ED |
|  |  | SHARON |
|  |  | BARBARA |
| ROSE |  |  |
|  |  | BOB GREEN |
|  |  | MICHELLE |
|  |  | ASHLEY |
| AMY CHAN |  |  |
|  |  | ED SENIOR |
|  |  | MINISTER THOMAS |
|  |  | MRS. ALLEN |
| ALBERT |  |  |
| KELVIN |  |  |
|  |  | HELICOPTER PILOT |
| DR. GHORBAANI |  |  |
|  |  | WOMAN 1 |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
|  |  | CASHIER |
|  |  | SECRETARY #2 |
|  |  | SECRETARY #3 |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
|  |  | TERESA |
|  |  | WOMAN 2 |
| MARCUS |  |  |
|  |  | AVIATION GUY |
|  |  | FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |
|  |  | MINISTER’S WIFE |
|  |  | DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |
|  |  | CAREGIVER |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  |  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  |  | BIKER GUY |
|  |  | LOIS |
|  |  | UNCLE AL |
| JASON |  |  |
|  |  | CLIENT |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  |  | BILL |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  |  | HARD HAT GUY |
|  |  | JOGGER |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
|  |  | DIANE |
|  |  | SECRETARY #1 |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
|  |  | WIFE |

The Sidney Poitier Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Sidney Poitier test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is a character of color who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with race/ethnicity stereotypes or tropes. |



**LGBTQ+ Analysis**

***For comparison, LGBTQ+ people comprise 4.5% of the U.S. population.***

* 0 characters are specified as LGBTQ+.
* The leading character is specified as heterosexual.
* The script contains 42 character opportunities to increase LGBTQ+ diversity.

Characters by LGBTQ+ Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LGBTQ+ CHARACTER** | **HETEROSEXUAL CHARACTER** | **SEXUALITY UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | ED |  |
|  | SHARON |  |
|  | BARBARA |  |
|  |  | ROSE |
|  |  | BOB GREEN |
|  |  | MICHELLE |
|  |  | ASHLEY |
|  |  | AMY CHAN |
|  | ED SENIOR |  |
|  | MINISTER THOMAS |  |
|  |  | MRS. ALLEN |
|  | ALBERT |  |
|  |  | KELVIN |
|  |  | HELICOPTER PILOT |
|  |  | DR. GHORBANI |
|  |  | WOMAN 1 |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
|  |  | CASHIER |
|  |  | SECRETARY #2 |
|  |  | SECRETARY #3 |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
|  | TERESA |  |
|  |  | AVIATION GUY |
|  |  | FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |
|  | MINISTER’S WIFE |  |
|  |  | DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |
|  |  | CAREGIVER |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  |  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  |  | BIKER GUY |
|  | LOIS |  |
|  | UNCLE AL |  |
|  |  | JASON |
|  |  | CLIENT |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  |  | BILL |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  |  | HARD HAT GUY |
|  |  | JOGGER |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
|  |  | DIANE |
|  |  | SECRETARY #1 |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
|  |  | WIFE |

The Vito-Russo Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Vito-Russo test, a script/manuscript must:** | |
| **NO** | Contain a character that is identifiably lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer. |
| **NO** | That character must not be solely or predominantly defined by their sexual orientation or gender identity (i.e. they are comprised of the same sort of unique character traits commonly used to differentiate straight/non-transgender characters from one another). |
| **NO** | The LGBTQ character must be tied into the plot in such a way that their removal would have a significant effect, meaning they are not there to simply provide colorful commentary, paint urban authenticity, or (perhaps most commonly) set up a punchline. |



**Disability Analysis**

***For comparison, people with disabilities constitute 19% of the U.S. population.***

* 1 character is specified as having a physical, cognitive, or communication disability.
* The leading character is not shown having a disability.
* The script contains 51 character opportunities to increase disability diversity.

Characters by Disability Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER WITH DISABILITY** | **CHARACTER WITHOUT DISABILITY** | **DISABILITY STATUS UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | ED |
|  |  | SHARON |
|  |  | BARBARA |
|  |  | ROSE |
|  |  | BOB GREEN |
| MICHELLE |  |  |
|  |  | ASHLEY |
|  |  | AMY CHAN |
|  |  | ED SENIOR |
|  |  | MINISTER THOMAS |
|  |  | MRS. ALLEN |
|  |  | ALBERT |
|  |  | KELVIN |
|  |  | HELICOPTER PILOT |
|  |  | DR. GHORBANI |
|  |  | WOMAN 1 |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
|  |  | CASHIER |
|  |  | SECRETARY #2 |
|  |  | SECRETARY #3 |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
|  |  | TERESA |
|  |  | WOMAN 2 |
|  |  | MARCUS |
|  |  | AVIATION GUY |
|  |  | FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |
|  |  | MINISTER’S WIFE |
|  |  | DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |
|  |  | CAREGIVER |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  |  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  |  | BIKER GUY |
|  |  | LOIS |
|  |  | UNCLE AL |
|  |  | JASON |
|  |  | CLIENT |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  |  | BILL |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  |  | HARD HAT GUY |
|  |  | JOGGER |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
|  |  | DIANE |
|  |  | SECRETARY #1 |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
|  |  | WIFE |

The Marlee Matlin Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Marlee Matlin test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a physical, cognitive, or communication disability who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with disability stereotypes or tropes. |



**Age (50+) Analysis**

***For comparison, people ages 50+ constitute 34% of the U.S. population.***

* 11 characters are specified as ages 50+.
* The leading character is under 50.
* The script contains 30 character opportunities to increase age diversity.

Characters by Age

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER 50+** | **CHARACTER UNDER 50** | **AGE UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | ED |  |
|  | SHARON |  |
| BARBARA |  |  |
|  |  | ROSE |
| BOB GREEN |  |  |
|  | MICHELLE |  |
|  | ASHLEY |  |
|  | AMY CHAN |  |
| ED SENIOR |  |  |
| MINISTER THOMAS |  |  |
| MRS. ALLEN |  |  |
| ALBERT |  |  |
|  | KELVIN |  |
|  |  | HELICOPTER PILOT |
| DR. GHORBANI |  |  |
|  |  | WOMAN 1 |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
|  |  | CASHIER |
|  |  | SECRETARY #2 |
|  |  | SECRETARY #3 |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
|  | TERESA |  |
|  |  | WOMAN 2 |
|  | MARCUS |  |
|  |  | AVIATION GUY |
|  |  | FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |
| MINISTER’S WIFE |  |  |
|  | DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |  |
|  | CAREGIVER |  |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  |  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  |  | BIKER GUY |
| LOIS |  |  |
| UNCLE AL |  |  |
|  | JASON |  |
|  |  | CLIENT |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  |  | BILL |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  |  | HARD HAT GUY |
|  |  | JOGGER |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
| DIANE |  |  |
|  |  | SECRETARY #1 |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
|  |  | WIFE |

The Betty White Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Betty White test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is 50+ who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with age stereotypes or tropes. |



**Body Size Analysis**

***For comparison, people with large body types constitute 39% of the U.S. population.***

* 3 characters are specified as having a large body type.
* The leading character is not specified as having a large body type.
* The script contains 49 character opportunities to increase body type diversity.

Characters by Body Size

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER WITH LARGE BODY TYPE** | **CHARACTER WITH SMALL/MEDIUM BODY TYPE** | **BODY SIZE UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | ED |
|  |  | SHARON |
|  |  | BARBARA |
|  |  | ROSE |
| BOB GREEN |  |  |
|  |  | MICHELLE |
|  |  | ASHLEY |
|  |  | AMY CHAN |
|  |  | ED SENIOR |
|  |  | MINISTER THOMAS |
|  |  | MRS. ALLEN |
|  |  | ALBERT |
| KELVIN |  |  |
|  |  | HELICOPTER PILOT |
|  |  | DR. GHORBANI |
|  |  | WOMAN 1 |
|  |  | SECRETARY |
|  |  | CASHIER |
|  |  | SECRETARY #2 |
|  |  | SECRETARY #3 |
|  |  | AIRPORT SECURITY MANAGER |
|  |  | TERESA |
|  |  | WOMAN 2 |
| MARCUS |  |  |
|  |  | AVIATION GUY |
|  |  | FEMALE NEWS ANCHOR |
|  |  | MINISTER’S WIFE |
|  |  | DOCTOR #1 / VOICE (O.S.) |
|  |  | CAREGIVER |
|  |  | BILLING CLERK |
|  |  | ED’S NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | DOCTOR #2 |
|  |  | BIKER GUY |
|  |  | LOIS |
|  |  | UNCLE AL |
|  |  | JASON |
|  |  | CLIENT |
|  |  | ASSISTANT |
|  |  | BILL |
|  |  | TRAFFIC REPORTER |
|  |  | PRODUCER |
|  |  | A.M. RADIO |
|  |  | CLERK |
|  |  | ANOTHER RELATIVE |
|  |  | HARD HAT GUY |
|  |  | JOGGER |
|  |  | HOMEOWNER |
|  |  | BANK REP |
|  |  | DIANE |
|  |  | SECRETARY #1 |
|  |  | OFFICE ASSISTANT |
|  |  | WIFE |

The Cooper Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Cooper test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a large body type who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with size stereotypes or tropes. |



**Intersectional Analysis**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Female Character** | **Character of Color** | **LGBTQ+ Character** | **Character with a Disability** | **Character 50+** | **Character with Large Body Type** |
| **Female Character** |  | **YES** | **NO** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Character of Color** | **YES** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **LGBTQ+ Character** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character with a Disability** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character 50+** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **YES** |
| **Character with Large Body Type** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **YES** |  |

**Positive Aspects**

* Depicting a Latinx man as a CEO (Alberto Gonzales) is a positive representation of diverse leadership.
* Barbara, Ed Sr., Minister Thomas, Mrs. Allen, and Georgie are all positive representations of folks age 50+ and are not shown with ageist stereotypes. They are shown having active social lives, jobs, and being physically active, while also still caring for their families and community.
* The older lady with the rainbow mohawk who shows up in an F-150 snowplow shatters gendered ageist stereotypes.
* It is refreshing to see that Sharon becomes a positive and stable aspect of Michelle and her family’s life, without her having to end up in a relationship with Ed to do so. She is also a determined, hard-working business owner and even is seen taking control of her alcoholism. Inspiring storyline that doesn’t trip familiar gender tropes.

**Potential Pitfalls**

* Potential Sexism: Ed not being good at doing his daughter’s hair reinforces the myth that fathers are not good parents.
* Potential Sizeism: Joking about “trading drunk for fat” could be construed as sizeism.
* Potential Racism: Avoid casting the Clerk and Cashier as people of color to avoid the stereotype of BIPOC working in service positions.