**Spellcheck For Bias: *Kid Swap***

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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 *Kid Swap* for Lionsgate:

* [Gender](#bookmark=id.gjdgxs)
* [Race/Ethnicity](#bookmark=id.30j0zll)
* [LGBTQ+](#bookmark=id.1fob9te)
* [Disability](#bookmark=id.3znysh7)
* [Age (50+)](#bookmark=id.2et92p0)
* [Body Size](#bookmark=id.tyjcwt)

**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 line of text or more. In *Kid Swap*, 22 characters met this criterion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER NAME** | **LINE COUNT** |
| Greg | 499 |
| Nicole | 384 |
| Randall | 360 |
| June | 285 |
| Marty | 104 |
| Amy | 85 |
| Andrew | 74 |
| Aaron | 57 |
| Jasmine | 21 |
| Raul | 21 |
| Xander | 12 |
| Mother | 7 |
| Jake Paul | 4 |
| Security Guard | 3 |
| Neighbor | 2 |
| Sir David | 2 |
| Randall’s Boss | 2 |
| Woman | 1 |
| Elderly Shopper | 1 |
| Random Parent | 1 |
| Patron | 1 |
| Owner | 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.***

* 7 characters are specified as female.
* The leading characters are male and female (“Greg”, “Nicole”, “Randall”, and “June”).
* The script contains 4 character opportunities to increase gender diversity.

Characters by Gender

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FEMALE CHARACTER** | **MALE CHARACTER** | **GENDER UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | Greg |  |
| Nicole |  |  |
|  | Randall |  |
| June |  |  |
|  | Marty |  |
| Amy |  |  |
|  | Andrew |  |
|  | Aaron |  |
| Jasmine |  |  |
|  | Raul |  |
|  | Xander |  |
| Mother |  |  |
|  | Jake Paul |  |
|  |  | Security Guard |
|  | Neighbor |  |
|  | Sir David |  |
|  |  | Randall’s Boss |
| Woman/ Mrs. Mendelson |  |  |
| Elderly Shopper |  |  |
|  |  | Random Parent |
|  | Patron |  |
|  |  | Owner |

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. |

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**Race/Ethnicity Analysis**

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

* 0 characters are specified as characters of color.
* The leading characters are unspecified (“Greg”, “Nicole”, “Randall”, “June”).
* The script contains 19 character opportunities to increase racial/ethnic diversity.

Characters by Race/Ethnicity

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER OF COLOR** | **WHITE CHARACTER** | **RACE/ETHNICITY UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | Greg |
|  |  | Nicole |
|  |  | Randall |
|  |  | June |
|  |  | Marty |
|  |  | Amy |
|  |  | Andrew |
|  |  | Aaron |
|  |  | Jasmine |
|  |  | Raul |
|  |  | Xander |
|  | Mother |  |
|  | Jake Paul |  |
|  |  | Security Guard |
|  |  | Neighbor |
|  | Sir David |  |
|  |  | Randall’s Boss |
|  |  | Woman/Mrs. Mendelson |
|  |  | Elderly Shopper |
|  |  | Random Parent |
|  |  | Patron |
|  |  | Owner |

The Sidney Poitier Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Sidney Poitier test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **NO** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is a character of color who; |
|  | 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 characters are specified as heterosexual (“Greg”, “Nicole”, “Randall”, “June”).
* The script contains 9 character opportunities to increase LGBTQ+ diversity.

Characters by LGBTQ+ Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LGBTQ+ CHARACTER** | **HETEROSEXUAL CHARACTER** | **SEXUALITY UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | Greg |  |
|  | Nicole |  |
|  | Randall |  |
|  | June |  |
|  | Marty |  |
|  |  | Amy |
|  |  | Andrew |
|  |  | Aaron |
|  |  | Jasmine |
|  | Raul |  |
|  | Xander |  |
|  | Mother |  |
|  | Jake Paul |  |
|  |  | Security Guard |
|  |  | Neighbor |
|  | Sir David |  |
|  |  | Randall’s Boss |
|  | Woman/Mrs. Mendelson |  |
|  |  | Elderly Shopper |
|  |  | Random Parent |
|  |  | Patron |
|  |  | Owner |

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. |
|  | 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). |
|  | 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.***

* 0 characters are specified as having a physical, cognitive, or communication disability.
* The leading characters are unspecified.
* The script contains 22 character opportunities to increase disability diversity.

Characters by Disability Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER WITH DISABILITY** | **CHARACTER WITHOUT DISABILITY** | **DISABILITY STATUS UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | GREG |
|  |  | NICOLE |
|  |  | RANDALL |
|  |  | JUNE |
|  |  | MARTY |
|  |  | AMY |
|  |  | ANDREW |
|  |  | AARON |
|  |  | JASMINE |
|  |  | RAUL |
|  |  | XANDER |
|  |  | MOTHER |
|  |  | JAKE PAUL |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | SIR DAVID |
|  |  | RANDALL’S BOSS |
|  |  | WOMAN/ Mrs Mendelson |
|  |  | ELDERLY SHOPPER |
|  |  | RANDOM PARENT |
|  |  | PATRON |
|  |  | OWNER |

The Marlee Matlin Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Marlee Matlin test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **NO** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a physical, cognitive, or communication disability who; |
|  | Is not depicted with disability stereotypes or tropes. |



**Age (50+) Analysis**

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

* 3 characters are specified as ages 50+.
* The leading characters are under 50 (“Greg”, “Nicole”, “Randall”, “June”).
* The script contains 8 character opportunities to increase age diversity.

Characters by Age

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER 50+** | **CHARACTER UNDER 50** | **AGE UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | Greg |  |
|  | Nicole |  |
|  | Randall |  |
|  | June |  |
|  | Marty |  |
|  | Amy |  |
|  | Andrew |  |
|  | Aaron |  |
|  | Jasmine |  |
|  |  | Raul |
|  | Xander |  |
|  |  | Mother |
|  | Jake Paul |  |
|  |  | Security Guard |
|  |  | Neighbor |
| Sir David |  |  |
|  |  | Randall’s Boss |
| Woman/Mrs. Mendelson |  |  |
| Elderly Shopper |  |  |
|  |  | Random Parent |
|  |  | Patron |
|  |  | Owner |

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.***

* 0 characters are specified as having a large body type.
* The leading characters are not specified.
* The script contains 22 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** |
|  |  | GREG |
|  |  | NICOLE |
|  |  | RANDALL |
|  |  | JUNE |
|  |  | MARTY |
|  |  | AMY |
|  |  | ANDREW |
|  |  | AARON |
|  |  | JASMINE |
|  |  | RAUL |
|  |  | XANDER |
|  |  | MOTHER |
|  |  | JAKE PAUL |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | NEIGHBOR |
|  |  | SIR DAVID |
|  |  | RANDALL’S BOSS |
|  |  | WOMAN |
|  |  | ELDERLY SHOPPER |
|  |  | RANDOM PARENT |
|  |  | PATRON |
|  |  | OWNER |

The Cooper Test

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In order to pass the Cooper test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| **NO** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a large body type who; |
|  | 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** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character of Color** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **LGBTQ+ Character** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character with a Disability** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character 50+** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** |
| **Character with Large Body Type** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |  |

**Positive Aspects**

* Shows fathers that are emotionally involved parents that care deeply about their children (Randall and Greg).
* Shows male character recovering from childhood emotional trauma through communication (Greg).
* The relationships between the two couples show mutual respect, despite challenges.

**Potential Pitfalls**

* **Potential Racism**: The [Sumo Wrestler costume](https://thebodyisnotanapology.com/magazine/7-ways-to-not-be-an-ally-on-halloween/) mixes racism, cultural appropriation, and fatphobia-- an easy pitfall to avoid.
* **Potential Sexism:** When discussing teen girls experiencing puberty, they are described as “mean and manipulative and cunning”(22). When discussing puberty with Marty (11 year old boy), his experience is normalized, with his uncle stating “there’s nothing to be ashamed of...your body’s changing” (44).
* **Potential Sexism:** Gender slur “bitch” used which could be substituted with a gender neutral insult, like “asshole.”
* **Potential Sexism**: Greg’s comment to Marty that women in real life aren’t usually “that enthusiastic” compared to women in porn is supposed to be funny, but it reinforces the idea that women in real life aren’t properly enthusiastic about sex. The subtle message here is that women’s sexuality revolves around the sexual pleasure men derive from women being “enthusiastic,” even when paid to perform enthusiasm.
* **Potential Sexism:** Jasmine embodies the “mean girl” trope, and as the potential only girl of color in the script, this is especially important to avoid.
* **Potential Sexism**: Amy and Jasmine “can’t handle alcohol”-- a gender-based stereotype.
* **Potential Sexism**: Coachella scenes contain sexually objectified background female characters. Avoid representing women as sexual props in these shots.
* **Potential Fatphobia and Insensitivity Toward Survivors**: The Harvey Weinstein costume representation has a few potential pitfalls. First, the pillows stuffed in their bellies makes body size part of the joke/insult, which reinforces fatphobia. Second, the writers seem aware that representing Weinstein may be seen as celebrating him. It’s supposed to be a punishment, which automatically puts Weinstein in the “bad” bucket, but it seems gratuitous to add this in when the interpretation is so complex. If I’m a survivor of sexual violence, I may eave the theater having been asked to think about sexual violence. It seems like this bit is maybe not worth the laughs given its complexity?