**Spellcheck For Bias: *SHOTGUN WEDDING***

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FEBRUARY, 2021

**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 *SHOTGUN WEDDING* 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 lines of text or more. In *SHOTGUN WEDDING*, 27 characters met this criterion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER NAME** | **LINE COUNT** |
| GRACE | 548 |
| TOM | 491 |
| CAROL | 93 |
| SEAN | 82 |
| RICKY | 56 |
| PIRATE LEADER | 53 |
| MARGE | 50 |
| JAMIE | 50 |
| RENEE | 46 |
| ROBERT | 46 |
| HARRIETT | 32 |
| DOG-FACE | 23 |
| ACE | 22 |
| LARRY | 13 |
| JEANNIE | 12 |
| SECURITY GUARD | 11 |
| RAT-FACE | 6 |
| SCOTTY | 5 |
| DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND | 4 |
| SHARK-FACE | 4 |
| TIGER-FACE | 3 |
| PIRATE VOICE | 2 |
| LIZARD-FACE | 2 |
| WAITER | 1 |
| JENNIFER | 1 |
| BONE-FACE | 1 |
| CLOWN-FACE | 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.***

* 9 characters are specified as female.
* The leading character is male.
* The script contains 0 character opportunities to increase gender diversity.

Characters by Gender

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FEMALE CHARACTER** | **MALE CHARACTER** | **GENDER UNSPECIFIED** |
| GRACE |  |  |
|  | TOM |  |
| CAROL |  |  |
|  | SEAN |  |
|  | RICKY |  |
|  | PIRATE LEADER |  |
| MARGE |  |  |
| JAMIE |  |  |
| RENEE |  |  |
|  | ROBERT |  |
| HARRIETT |  |  |
|  | DOG-FACE |  |
|  | ACE |  |
|  | LARRY |  |
| JEANNIE |  |  |
|  | SECURITY GUARD |  |
|  | RAT-FACE |  |
|  | SCOTTY |  |
| DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |  |  |
|  | SHARK-FACE |  |
|  | TIGER-FACE |  |
|  | PIRATE VOICE |  |
|  | LIZARD-FACE |  |
|  | WAITER |  |
| JENNIFER |  |  |
|  | BONE-FACE |  |
|  | CLOWN-FACE |  |

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.***

* 15 characters are specified as characters of color.
* One of the leading characters is a character of color (“Grace”).
* The script contains 12 character opportunities to increase racial/ethnic diversity.

Characters by Race/Ethnicity

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER OF COLOR** | **WHITE CHARACTER** | **RACE/ETHNICITY UNSPECIFIED** |
| GRACE |  |  |
|  |  | TOM |
|  |  | CAROL |
|  |  | SEAN |
|  |  | RICKY |
|  |  | PIRATE LEADER |
| MARGE |  |  |
| JAMIE |  |  |
| RENEE |  |  |
| ROBERT |  |  |
|  |  | HARRIETT |
| DOG-FACE |  |  |
| ACE |  |  |
|  |  | LARRY |
|  |  | JEANNIE |
| SECURITY GUARD |  |  |
| RAT-FACE |  |  |
|  |  | SCOTTY |
|  |  | DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |
| SHARK-FACE |  |  |
| TIGER-FACE |  |  |
| PIRATE VOICE |  |  |
| LIZARD-FACE |  |  |
|  |  | WAITER |
|  |  | JENNIFER |
| BONE-FACE |  |  |
| CLOWN-FACE |  |  |

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 13 character opportunities to increase LGBTQ+ diversity.

Characters by LGBTQ+ Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LGBTQ+ CHARACTER** | **HETEROSEXUAL CHARACTER** | **SEXUALITY UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | GRACE |  |
|  | TOM |  |
|  | CAROL |  |
|  | SEAN |  |
|  | RICKY |  |
|  |  | PIRATE LEADER |
|  | MARGE |  |
|  | JAMIE |  |
|  | RENEE |  |
|  | ROBERT |  |
|  | HARRIETT |  |
|  |  | DOG-FACE |
|  | ACE |  |
|  | LARRY |  |
|  | JEANNIE |  |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | RAT-FACE |
|  | SCOTTY |  |
|  |  | DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |
|  |  | SHARK-FACE |
|  |  | TIGER-FACE |
|  |  | PIRATE VOICE |
|  |  | LIZARD-FACE |
|  |  | WAITER |
|  |  | JENNIFER |
|  |  | BONE-FACE |
|  |  | CLOWN-FACE |

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 characters are specified as having a physical, cognitive, or communication disability.
* The leading character is not shown having a disability.
* The script contains 26 character opportunities to increase disability diversity.

Characters by Disability Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER WITH DISABILITY** | **CHARACTER WITHOUT DISABILITY** | **DISABILITY STATUS UNSPECIFIED** |
|  |  | GRACE |
|  |  | TOM |
|  |  | CAROL |
|  |  | SEAN |
|  |  | RICKY |
|  |  | PIRATE LEADER |
|  |  | MARGE |
|  |  | JAMIE |
|  |  | RENEE |
|  |  | ROBERT |
|  |  | HARRIETT |
|  |  | DOG-FACE |
|  |  | ACE |
|  |  | LARRY |
|  |  | JEANNIE |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | RAT-FACE |
| SCOTTY |  |  |
|  |  | DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |
|  |  | SHARK-FACE |
|  |  | TIGER-FACE |
|  |  | PIRATE VOICE |
|  |  | LIZARD-FACE |
|  |  | WAITER |
|  |  | JENNIFER |
|  |  | BONE-FACE |
|  |  | CLOWN-FACE |

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.***

* 6 characters specified as ages 50+.
* The script contains 12 character opportunities to increase age diversity.

Characters by Age

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHARACTER 50+** | **CHARACTER UNDER 50** | **AGE UNSPECIFIED** |
|  | GRACE |  |
|  | TOM |  |
| CAROL |  |  |
|  | SEAN |  |
|  | RICKY |  |
|  |  | PIRATE LEADER |
| MARGE |  |  |
|  | JAMIE |  |
| RENEE |  |  |
| ROBERT |  |  |
|  | HARRIETT |  |
|  |  | DOG-FACE |
| ACE |  |  |
| LARRY |  |  |
|  | JEANNIE |  |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | RAT-FACE |
|  | SCOTTY |  |
|  | DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |  |
|  |  | SHARK-FACE |
|  |  | TIGER-FACE |
|  |  | PIRATE VOICE |
|  |  | LIZARD-FACE |
|  |  | WAITER |
|  |  | JENNIFER |
|  |  | BONE-FACE |
|  |  | CLOWN-FACE |

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 character is not specified as having a large body type.
* The script contains 26 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** |
|  |  | GRACE |
|  |  | TOM |
|  |  | CAROL |
|  |  | SEAN |
|  |  | RICKY |
|  |  | PIRATE LEADER |
|  | MARGE |  |
|  |  | JAMIE |
|  |  | RENEE |
|  |  | ROBERT |
|  |  | HARRIETT |
|  |  | DOG-FACE |
|  |  | ACE |
|  |  | LARRY |
|  |  | JEANNIE |
|  |  | SECURITY GUARD |
|  |  | RAT-FACE |
|  |  | SCOTTY |
|  |  | DARCY’S COLLEGE FRIEND |
|  |  | SHARK-FACE |
|  |  | TIGER-FACE |
|  |  | PIRATE VOICE |
|  |  | LIZARD-FACE |
|  |  | WAITER |
|  |  | JENNIFER |
|  |  | BONE-FACE |
|  |  | CLOWN-FACE |

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

**Positive Aspects**

* Tom being a central part of wedding planning/execution flips the idea that this work is just for women/brides. The fact that he is more into the planning than Grace is a fresh gender role reversal.
* Great representations of characters 50+. They are varied, funny, and well-rounded. The scene with Carol and the gun is especially good in terms of 50+ age representations.
* Carol’s transformation to “Rambo in a wedding dress” who saves herself and others is an empowering storyline.

**Potential Pitfalls**

* **Potential Sexism**: The Harriett-Renee rivalry reinforces the idea that women are always in competition with one another for a man’s attention, especially older women with younger women.
* **Potential Homophobia/Transphobia**: Grace’s comments about Tom buying women’s jeans derives its humor from a homophobia punchline.
* **Potential Racism**: Setting this film in the Philippines where a marauding band of pirates attack a wedding party reinforces the idea that the Global South is [backwards and savage](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1057/9781137485335_4) compared to the Global North. If possible, have the pirates originate from the Global North.