Do Good Ratings Equate to a Good Movie?

Looking at the figures below, one will find they’re all trying to do the same thing. Each shows the top ten movies of within the database dependent on highest average ratings or highest count of ratings. Let’s take a look at **Figure 1**. The highest count of ratings is taken by Stars Wars, the original film, back in 1977. It’s a pretty iconic film, if I do say so myself. This same movie title pops up in **Figure 3**. So, it’s probably safe to say Star Wars is definitely a movie one should give a chance at watching.

Meanwhile we look over at **Figure 2**, there’s movies with perfect 5/5 average ratings. But then we look at the rating\_count, which tells us these movies haven’t been reviewed as often, hence giving them their perfect rating status. So here comes the question, are these movies really all that amazing. At the bottom of **Figure 2**, it says *Santa with Muscles (1996)*. I go over to another trusty movie review site, IMDb.com and it has a disheartening 2.5/10 average rating for this movie. Here’s where there’s flaws with relying solely on these kinds of websites where you leave a review and expect a recommendation for a “good movie.”

A database of movie reviews needs more ratings/reviews to improve their own recommendation management. From looking at the figures shown, in order to narrow down movies that are better qualified as “good movies” we should choose movies with higher rating\_count. This allows the average rating to be more distributed. However, even in that intent itself is already confirmation bias and statistical skewing. Now, to answer the question Do Good Ratings Equte to a Good Movie, the answer is… I am not sure. What I do know is, it was interesting working with this dataset.



Left: Figure 1. A table showing the top ten movies based on number of times movie was rated

Right: Figure 2. A table showing the top ten movies based on average ratings



Figure 3. A table showing the top ten movies based on average ratings and movies with more than 100 reviews