

RESISTANCE TO STEREOTYPES AND DISCRIMINATION IN ZOOTOPIA (2016)

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ABSTRACT

Zootopia is an animated film released in 2016 by Walt Disney Animation Studios. This movie not only offers entertainment for various audiences, but also conveys a deep social message about resistance to stereotypes and discrimination. This study uses narrative theory. Todorov (1971) put forward the concept of “equilibrium-disequilibrium-new equilibrium” in narrative structure, which suggests that the story begins in a state of equilibrium, experiences disruption, and finally returns to a new equilibrium. The research method used is a qualitative descriptive approach. The primary data used in this study comes from the film Zootopia (2016). While secondary data comes from articles and film reviews, such as academic articles, film critic reviews, and media analysis regarding Zootopia. This study aims to analyze how Zootopia represents and challenges stereotypes and discrimination through its narrative and characterization. It will explore the strategies and actions used by the characters to defy prejudice and prove their abilities beyond narrow social expectations. Through its complex characters and meaningful plot, the movie invites audiences to reflect on the impact of prejudice and discrimination, and the importance of inclusion and equality.

Key Words: *Stereotype, discrimination, resistance, movie, Zootopia*

ABSTRAK

Zootopia merupakan film animasi yang dirilis pada tahun 2016 oleh Walt Disney Animation Studios. Film ini tidak hanya menawarkan hiburan bagi berbagai kalangan penonton, tetapi juga menyampaikan pesan sosial yang mendalam mengenai perlawanan terhadap stereotip dan diskriminasi. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori naratif. Todorov (1971) mengemukakan konsep “equilibrium-disequilibrium-new equilibrium” dalam struktur naratif, yang menyarankan bahwa cerita dimulai dalam keadaan keseimbangan, mengalami gangguan, dan akhirnya kembali ke keseimbangan baru. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Data primer yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini bersumber dari film Zootopia (2016). Sedangkan data sekunder berasal dari artikel dan ulasan film, seperti artikel akademis, ulasan kritikus film, dan analisis media mengenai Zootopia. Studi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana film Zootopia merepresentasikan dan menantang stereotip serta diskriminasi melalui narasi dan karakterisasinya. Dalam penelitian ini akan dieksplorasi strategi dan tindakan yang digunakan para karakter, untuk menentang prasangka dan membuktikan kemampuan mereka di luar ekspektasi sosial yang sempit. Melalui karakter-karakternya

yang kompleks dan plot yang penuh makna, film ini mengajak penonton untuk merenungkan dampak dari prasangka dan diskriminasi, serta pentingnya inklusi dan kesetaraan.

Kata Kunci: *Stereotip, diskriminasi, resistensi, film, Zootopia.*

INTRODUCTION

Stereotyping is a social phenomenon rooted in the way humans process information about the world around them. Stereotypes are generalizations or assumptions made about individuals based on their membership in a particular group. Stereotypes are beliefs about the characteristics, attributes, and behaviors of members of a particular group. More than just beliefs about groups, stereotypes are also theories about how and why certain attributes go together. The nature and purpose of these theories tend to play an important role in determining when stereotypes are applied and when they will change (Hilton & Hippel, 1996). Stereotypes are often inaccurate and potentially harmful. Lippmann (1997), described stereotypes as “pictures in our heads” that help simplify the complexity of the world. While stereotypes can serve as cognitive tools that allow us to categorize and understand social environments quickly, they also carry the risk of distorting reality and reinforcing prejudice and discrimination.

Discrimination is one of the most profound social issues faced by modern society, where individuals or groups are treated unfairly based on characteristics such as race, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. One of the main root causes of discrimination is stereotypes, which are oversimplified and generally negative beliefs or assumptions about certain groups. Stereotypes create the basis for discrimination by directing biased views and behaviors towards targeted individuals or groups. According to the Sociological Encyclopedia, discrimination in social life is an act of distinction that occurs by violating social norms and the principle of equality in the eyes of the law against certain groups of society, which is considered unacceptable by the majority and approved by some sub-groups of society. Watson et al. (1984) states that discrimination is the negative treatment of certain groups. Meanwhile, Brigham (1986) states that discrimination is different treatment because of membership in a particular ethnic group. These ethnic

groups include ethnicity, language, customs, religion, nationality and others. The movie *Zootopia* shows how stereotypes embedded in society can lead to systematic and painful discrimination. The movie also showcases how individuals can fight stereotypes and discrimination through courage, hard work, and a willingness to understand and appreciate differences.

Zootopia is an animated film released in 2016 by Walt Disney Animation Studios. It was directed by Byron Howard and Rich Moore and produced by Clark Spencer. The movie not only offers entertainment for a wide range of audiences, but also conveys a deep social message about stereotypes and discrimination. The movie is set in a modern city called “Zootopia” where different types of animals coexist. *Zootopia* depicts a world where anthropomorphic animals, which are animals that resemble humans, live together in a heterogeneous city, but still face challenges similar to human reality, such as prejudice, discrimination, and stereotypes. *Zootopia* depicts social dynamics that mirror the challenges faced by humans in terms of prejudice and inequality.

The movie’s protagonist, Judy Hopps, is a rabbit who aspires to be a police officer in the big city of *Zootopia*, something that is unusual given the stereotype that rabbits are weak creatures and not suited for jobs that demand courage and physical strength. However, he still fights against the stereotypes attached to his species by becoming the first rabbit to work as a police officer in a profession generally dominated by large and strong animals. In addition, the movie also features the character of Nick Wilde, a fox who is also a victim of society’s stereotypes. He has become accustomed to being considered sly and untrustworthy, so he is forced to adopt behaviors that fit the stereotype in order to survive.

Through the characters of Judy and Nick, *Zootopia* explores how stereotypes can limit individual potential and create social barriers. The movie also shows that discrimination often stems from unfounded prejudices that are passed down through generations. In an effort to uncover the truth behind a series of criminal incidents that threaten the peaceful town of *Zootopia*, Judy and Nick demonstrate that collaboration and understanding across differences are key to

overcoming prejudice and creating a more inclusive society. The movie uses animal characters and entertaining situations to reflect on serious issues such as racism, social prejudice and inequality, which are real challenges in human society. The movie shows that change can start with individuals who dare to challenge existing norms and seek to change society's perceptions and attitudes. Through the characters of Judy and Nick, *Zootopia* teaches the importance of courage, integrity and cooperation in facing and fighting social injustice.

Therefore, this study aims to analyze how the movie *Zootopia* represents and challenges stereotypes and discrimination through its narrative and characterization. It will explore the strategies and actions used by the characters, Judy and Nick, to defy prejudice and prove their abilities beyond narrow social expectations. In addition, by understanding the messages conveyed in the movie, it can be explored how popular media can play a role in educating people about the importance of overcoming prejudice and discrimination in real life, as well as promoting equality.

This study uses narrative theory. Todorov (1971) put forward the concept of “equilibrium-disequilibrium-new equilibrium” in narrative structure, which suggests that the story begins in a state of equilibrium, experiences a disruption, and finally returns to a new equilibrium. Todorov (in Azizaty & Putri, 2018) suggests that narratives have a structure from beginning to end, and have a structure from beginning to end, and have chronological order, motifs and plots, and causal relationships of events. Narrative theory focuses on story structure, narrative elements, and how the story is conveyed to the audience. In the context of the movie *Zootopia*, this theory can be used to analyze how the movie develops the theme of resistance to stereotypes and discrimination through the storyline, characters, and moral messages conveyed.

The research method used is a qualitative descriptive approach. Taylor et al. (2015) state that qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behavior, the approach is directed at holistic settings and individuals. Qualitative research describes the ‘meaning of data’ or phenomena that can be

captured by researchers, by showing the evidence. The interpretation of the phenomenon depends a lot on the ability and sharpness of the researcher in analyzing it (Abdussamad, 2021). This approach was chosen to enable the researcher to deeply understand how the movie depicts and deals with issues of stereotyping and discrimination. The approach used in literary research has been dominated by the subjective approach. The subjective approach will provide sharp and in-depth descriptions, explanations, and arguments when analyzing data (Hikmat, 2011).

The primary data used in this study comes from the movie *Zootopia* (2016). Analysis was conducted on the entire content of the movie including dialog, characters, plot, and visuals to identify themes related to stereotypes and discrimination and resistance against them. Secondary data derived from articles and film reviews, such as academic articles, film critics' reviews, and media analysis of *Zootopia*. By using this research method, the study aims to provide an in-depth and comprehensive analysis of the representation of and resistance to stereotypes and discrimination in the movie *Zootopia* (2016), as well as provide insight into the social impact of popular media in delivering messages about justice and equality.

DISCUSSION

The animated film *Zootopia* (2016) provides an in-depth look at social issues such as stereotyping and discrimination through the lens of an anthropomorphic animal world. In the movie, various species of animals live together in a seemingly idealized city, but beneath the surface lies prejudice and injustice. In this movie, one of the main themes is the concept of "Anyone Can Be Anything." This slogan is first introduced by the character Judy Hopps, a rabbit who aspires to be a police officer in the big city of *Zootopia*. This theme not only becomes a personal motivation for Judy, but also becomes the movie's central message about opportunities, dreams, and transcending the limits set by stereotypes and prejudices. This study discusses how the main characters in

Zootopia fight against stereotypes and discrimination, and the lessons that can be drawn from their efforts.

1. Representation of Resistance to Stereotypes in *Zootopia* (2016)

a. Rabbits as Weak and Incompetent Creatures



Figure 1 (3:28-3:38)

BONNIE HOPPS: What your father means, hon, is it's gonna be difficult-- impossible even-- for you to become a police officer.

STU HOPPS: Right. There's never been a bunny cop.

BONNIE HOPPS: No.

STU HOPPS: Bunnies don't do that.

BONNIE HOPPS: Never.

STU HOPPS: Never.

(Howard et al., 2016)

In this scene, the conversation between Bonnie Hopps (Judy's mother), Stu Hopps (Judy's father), and Young Judy Hopps shows the stereotypes they have about the role of rabbits in society. Stu and Bonnie reveal that there is no history of rabbits being police officers and imply that rabbits are unsuitable or incapable of doing this job. This is a stereotype that assumes that rabbits lack the qualities needed to be police officers, such as courage, strength or toughness. Bonnie and Stu show Judy that they believe being a police officer is "impossible" for a rabbit. This reflects the stereotype that certain species are only suited for certain roles in society, and breaking out of those roles is considered impossible.



Figure 2 (3:38-3:46)

YOUNG JUDY: Oh. Then I guess I'll have to be the first one. Because I am gonna make the world... (parkours against a vendor's stand) A better place!

(Howard et al., 2016)

However, Judy's reaction shows that she is unaffected by such stereotypes and is determined to prove them wrong. Young Judy shows resistance to these stereotypes by stating that if no rabbit has ever been a police officer before, then she will be the first. This shows Judy's determination and passion to go beyond the limitations set by stereotypes and shows that anyone, regardless of their species, can achieve their dreams if they work hard and believe in themselves. This scene shows that stereotypes are not a barrier for individuals to pursue their dreams and that determination and courage can overcome society's prejudices.



Figure 3 (5:50-6:50)

Hopps and the comparatively huge CADETS sit in a circle as MAJOR FRIEDKIN, an intimidating drill instructor, lectures.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN: Listen up Cadets! Zootopia has 12 unique ecosystems within its city limits-- Tundra Town, Sahara Square, Rainforest District, to name a few. You're gonna have to master all of them before you hit the streets-- or guess what? (to Hopps) You'll be dead!

IN SAHARA SQUARE SIMULATOR:

Hopps struggles through the sand.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN(CONT'D): Scorching sandstorm. You're dead, bunny bumpkin!

ON THE VINE-COVERED MONKEY BARS:

Hopps swings across the bars, simulating the RAINFOREST DISTRICT. She falls off, landing face first in the mud.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (O.S.) (CONT'D): 1000 foot fall. You're dead, carrot face!

TUNDRA TOWN ICE WALL:

Judy and the cadets sprint toward the wall. The CLAWED ANIMALS dig into the ice wall. Hopps slides off.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (CONT'D): Frigid ice wall. You're dead, farm girl!

IN THE BOXING RING:

Hopps gets in the ring with a BIG BISON.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (CONT'D): E-normous criminal.

Hopps gets punched in the nose.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (CONT'D): You're dead!

THREE QUICK CUTS OF FAILURE:

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (O.S.) (CONT'D): Dead! / Dead! / Dead!

IN THE TOILET:

Hopps rushes into a stall. The toilet is considerably larger than she is. She shuts the door. We see her climb up the toilet. In the next stall, we see the feet of a Hippo.

Then, KERSPLASH! Hopps falls into the toilet.

MAJOR FRIEDKIN (CONT'D): Filthy toilet. You're dead, fluff butt!

(Howard et al., 2016)

The scenes at the police academy in the movie illustrate several stereotypes related to Judy Hopps' character as a rabbit who is perceived as weak and incompetent. In each training scenario, Major Friedkin, a polar bear, uses derogatory nicknames for Judy that refer to her physical traits and her origins as a

small rabbit from the country (bunny bumpkin, carrot face, farm girl, fluff butt). This reflects the stereotype that rabbits, due to their small size and origin, are considered weak and unsuitable to be police officers. Major Friedkin emphasizes that Judy is unable to survive in various extreme environments such as deserts, rainforests, and snowy regions. This reflects the stereotype that rabbits do not have the ability or toughness to survive the harsh conditions that a police officer might face. Judy is deemed incapable of taking on large and powerful criminals, as evidenced by her fight in the boxing ring, which again reflects the stereotype that small and weak rabbits cannot handle significant physical threats. The scene in the toilet also highlights how Judy's small size is perceived as a weakness, even in everyday tasks such as using the toilet. This reinforces the stereotype that rabbits' physical size makes them unable to handle situations bigger than themselves.



Figure 4 (7:17-7:37)

It's graduation day. MAYOR LIONHEART is at the podium.

LIONHEART: As Mayor of Zootopia, I am proud to announce that my Mammal Inclusion Initiative has produced its first police academy graduate.

Judy stands proudly in her cop uniform.

LIONHEART (CONT'D): Valedictorian of her class, ZPD's very first rabbit officer... Judy Hopps.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene clearly shows resistance to stereotypes through Judy Hopps' achievements. Through the "Mammal Inclusion Initiative," *Zootopia* seeks to create a more inclusive and fair environment. Being the first rabbit to graduate from the police academy and achieving the highest position in her class directly

defies the stereotype that rabbits are not strong or capable enough to become police officers. It proves that competence and success are not limited to certain species. During her training, Judy faced many obstacles and discrimination based on stereotypes of rabbit weakness and incompetence. By completing her training and becoming a top graduate, Judy showed that determination, hard work and individual ability are more important than stereotypes.

b. The Fox as Sly and Untrustworthy Creatures



Figure 5 (25:33-25:53)

NICK: Alright look, everyone comes to Zootopia thinking they can be anything they want. Well you can't. You can only be what you are. (points to himself) Sly fox.

NICK (CONT'D): (points to her) Dumb bunny.

HOPPS: I am NOT a dumb bunny.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This dialogue between Nick Wilde and Judy Hopps illustrates the stereotype that foxes are sly and untrustworthy creatures, and how this stereotype affects self-view and interactions between characters. Nick identifies himself as a “sly fox.” This reflects the common stereotype that foxes are sly, manipulative and untrustworthy creatures. This stereotype often appears in various cultures and stories, where foxes are portrayed as clever tricksters.



Figure 6 (59:55-1:00:10)

NICK: If the world's only gonna see a fox as shifty and untrustworthy, there's no point in trying to be anything else.

HOPPS: Nick, you are so much more than that...

(Howard et al., 2016)

Nick's statement shows the profound impact that stereotypes have on Nick's self-view. Since the world only sees him as a sly and untrustworthy fox, Nick feels that there is no point in trying to be something else. This shows how stereotypes can limit an individual's aspirations and influence their behavior, making them feel trapped in roles that have been prescribed by society. Judy defies Nick's limiting stereotypes by stating that he is much more than just a sly and untrustworthy fox. This shows that Judy sees potential and good qualities in Nick that are invisible to a society stuck in prejudice and stereotypes. Judy tries to encourage Nick to go beyond the labels given to him and see the true value in him.



Figure 7 (1:34:01-1:34:43)

Reveal: Hopps is giving a commencement address to the GRADUATES of the Police Academy.

HOPPS: So, no matter what type of animal you are, from the biggest elephant to our first fox...

Reveal: Nick is a cadet. He removes his shades, winks at Hopps.

HOPPS (CONT'D): I implore you... try. Try to make the world a better place.

On stage, Hopps readies to pin a BADGE on Nick. As she approaches, they exchange a nod-- a small, sincere gesture. She places the badge, then gives Nick an official salute.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene displays resistance to stereotypes through Judy and Nick's achievements. Judy transcends stereotypes about rabbits by becoming the first police officer of her species and then supports Nick to transcend stereotypes about foxes. Nick's presence as a cadet at the police academy is a strong example of resistance to the stereotype that foxes are sly and untrustworthy creatures. Earlier in the movie, Nick himself feels trapped by this stereotype, but with encouragement and support from Judy, he is able to transcend this prejudice and begin training to become a police officer. Judy refers to Nick as the first fox in the police academy, which shows that their inclusive initiatives are working and that Nick has transcended the boundaries set by stereotypes. Judy urges all academy graduates, regardless of their species, to strive to make the world a better place. When Judy puts the badge on Nick and gives him the official salute, it is a symbol of acceptance and recognition of Nick's abilities as a legitimate police officer. It also shows that Nick has transcended the stereotypes attached to him and is recognized based on his achievements, not based on prejudice against his species.

c. Sheep as Weak and Submissive Creatures



Figure 8 (7:37-8:10)

LIONHEART (CONT'D): (clearing his throat) Assistant Mayor Bellwether? Her badge.

BELLWETHER: Oh! Yes right.

...

LIONHEART: Bellwether, make room will ya? Come on.

Lionheart shoves Bellwether out of the way.

...

A group of PHOTOGRAPHERS aim their cameras. Lionheart steps in front of Bellwether, edging her out of the photo. The flashbulbs pop.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene reveals the stereotype of sheep as weak and submissive through the interaction between Mayor Lionheart and Assistant Mayor Bellwether. Bellwether is portrayed as an obedient and submissive assistant. When Lionheart asks Bellwether to give him his badge, Bellwether responds with a quick and obedient “Oh! Yes right,” showing his obedience to orders without question. Lionheart also pushed Bellwether out of the way and took a position in front of the camera, showing that Bellwether was not considered important or valuable in the situation. Bellwether does not argue or fight Lionheart's actions, which emphasizes the stereotype that sheep are weak creatures, easily pushed around, and do not have the strength or authority to fight back.



Figure 9 (1:32:42-1:32:49)

A PREDATOR-PREY news team reads the headlines. FOOTAGE shows Bellwether being led to jail in cuffs and an orange jumpsuit.

PREDATOR ANCHOR (V.O.): Former Mayor Dawn Bellwether is behind bars today, guilty of masterminding the savage attacks that have plagued Zootopia of late.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene reveals resistance to stereotypes through the revelation that Assistant Mayor Bellwether is actually the mastermind behind the brutal attacks

that take place in *Zootopia*. The revelation that Bellwether, a sheep, is the mastermind behind the brutal attacks against predators in *Zootopia* challenges the stereotype that sheep are weak and submissive creatures. Instead, Bellwether is shown to be a highly resourceful, manipulative and ambitious character. As the mastermind behind this evil plan, Bellwether shows that he has significant power and control, which contradicts the view that sheep have no authority or influence. Throughout the movie, Bellwether appears to be obedient and submissive to Major Lionheart and others around him. This is part of his ruse to remain unsuspected and control the situation from the shadows. This shows that stereotypes of obedience and weakness can be used as tools to deceive others about one's true intentions and abilities. Bellwether uses her gentle and submissive appearance to hide her evil plans, underlining the duality in her character and emphasizing that individuals are not always who they appear to be based on stereotypes.

2. Representation of Resistance to Discrimination in *Zootopia* (2016)

a. Discrimination Towards Employment



Figure 10(15:02-16:30)

BOGO (CONT'D): ...We have 14 missing mammal cases. All predators, from a giant polar bear, to a teensy little otter. And City Hall is right up my tail to find them. This is priority number one. Assignments!

HIGGINS hands Bogo a stack of CASE FILES. Bogo puts on his reading glasses, examining the files as he assigns cases.

BOGO (CONT'D): Officers Grizzoli, Fangmeyer, Delgado-- your teams take Missing Mammals from the Rainforest District. Officers McHorn, Rhinowitz, Wolfard, your teams take Sahara Square. Officers Higgins,

Snarlov, Trunkaby: Tundratown. And finally, our first bunny, Officer Hopps.

Hopps sits up, expectant but steely. Bogo looks at the final case file in his hand. He takes a dramatic breath, then:

BOGO (CONT'D): Parking Duty. Dismissed!

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene shows a form of discrimination in job assignments through the interaction between Chief Bogo and Officer Judy Hopps. Chief Bogo is organizing teams to handle missing mammal cases, all of which are predators. These cases are being given top priority due to pressure from City Hall. Chief Bogo assigned various police teams to investigate the missing mammals in different districts of the city. When it came to Judy Hopps, the first bunny to become a police officer, Chief Bogo gave her a much lesser task than the others: parking lot attendant. Judy was given parking duty, which was considered a lowly task and not as important as investigating missing mammal cases. This shows that even though Judy has proven herself by becoming the first police officer of the rabbit species, she is still discriminated against in terms of job assignments. This assignment reflects the prejudice that Chief Bogo may have that as a rabbit, Judy is not capable of handling heavier and more important tasks. This is a form of discrimination based on stereotypes about the abilities of the species.

Judy Hopps fights discrimination against her job by showing dedication, investigative skills and courage in the face of challenges. Although she faced prejudice and lowly assignments, Judy did not give up and kept trying to prove that she was capable and deserving of more important assignments. By uncovering a huge conspiracy and showing her courage and integrity, Judy manages to reverse the discrimination she faces and becomes an inspiring example to all the animals in *Zootopia*. The movie highlights that individuals' abilities should not be judged based on stereotypes or prejudices, but rather on their actions and character.

b. Discrimination Towards Herbivorous Species



Figure 11 (4:16-5:41)

GIDEON GREY: Gimme your tickets right now, or I'm gonna kick your meek little sheep butt.

SHARLA: Ow! Cut it out, Gideon!

GIDEON GREY: Baa-baa. What're ya gonna do, cry?

Gideon swipes Sharla's fair tickets.

(Howard et al., 2016)

Gideon Grey, a young fox who bullies Sharla, a sheep, with harsh words and threats of violence. By referring to Sharla as "meek little sheep butt," Gideon reinforces the stereotype that sheep are weak, submissive, and unable to defend themselves. The word "meek" suggests weakness and helplessness, while "little sheep butt" is used to further demean Sharla. The threat of physical violence "I'm gonna kick your meek little sheep butt" shows that Gideon feels superior and has the right to use violence to get what he wants. Gideon imitates the sound of a sheep "Baa-baa" as a way to mock and belittle Sharla, reminiscent of the stereotype that sheep are stupid and powerless creatures. By saying "What're ya gonna do, cry?", Gideon reinforces the idea that herbivores like Sharla are not only physically weak but also emotionally, making them easy targets for bullying. Gideon takes Sharla's ticket by force, showing that he does not consider Sharla worthy of defending her own. This reflects discrimination where predators feel they have the right to bully and dispossess from herbivores that are perceived to be weaker.

Judy, despite being smaller and considered weaker because she was a rabbit, decided not to stay silent. She confronts Gideon with courage and determination, showing that she will not allow discrimination and bullying to continue. Judy fights Gideon and manages to reclaim her friends' tickets. This

action shows that herbivores are not always weak and helpless, and that they too can fight injustice and win the fight. Judy shows that with courage, anyone can fight negative stereotypes and stand up against oppression.

c. Discrimination Towards Predatory Species



Figure 12 (1:10:35-1:12:05)

HOPPS: Well, all we know is that they are all members of the predator family.

ANOTHER REPORTER: So, predators are the only ones going savage?

HOPPS: That is accu-- Yes, that is accurate. Yes...

REPORTER 3: Wow. Why is that happening?

HOPPS: We still don't know—

More disappointed rumbling.

HOPPS (CONT'D): (trying to appease) Ah, it may have something to do with biology.

On Nick-- huh? The press reacts, too... big time.

REPORTER (O.S.): What do you mean by that?

HOPPS: A biological component. You know, something in their DNA...

REPORTER 4: (more aggressive) In their DNA? Can you elaborate on that, please?

HOPPS: Yes. What I mean is, thousands of years ago... um... predators survived through their aggressive hunting instincts. For whatever reason, they seem to be reverting back to their primitive, savage ways.

(Howard et al., 2016)

This scene depicts discrimination against predators through Judy Hopps' statement in a press conference. Judy Hopps, who has just successfully uncovered several cases of predators going savage, is giving a press conference. While

answering questions from reporters, Judy inadvertently reinforces negative stereotypes about predators by mentioning that their wild behavior may be due to a biological component or DNA. Judy's statement reinforced the stereotype that predators are naturally more aggressive and dangerous than other animals. It creates an image that predators cannot be changed or relied upon, exacerbating discrimination against them. By mentioning the biological component or DNA, Judy seems to be stating that wild behavior is an immutable part of a predator's identity, which is very detrimental to predators who are trying to fight the stereotype. This statement causes greater fear and distrust of predators in *Zootopia* society. Predators began to be viewed with suspicion and shunned by other animals.

Resistance to discrimination of predator species in the movie *Zootopia* is shown through various actions and events involving key characters who try to fight against prejudice and injustice faced by predators. Judy finally realizes her mistake in reinforcing stereotypes about predators, Judy publicly apologizes and admits that she was wrong. This is an important step in the fight against discrimination, as admitting mistakes is part of the effort to correct existing prejudices. Judy and Nick work together to uncover the conspiracy that causes predators to go feral. This partnership shows that predators and prey can work together successfully, dispelling the stereotype that predators are an unreliable threat. The movie teaches that with cooperation, understanding, and perseverance, stereotypes and discrimination can be challenged, and a more just and inclusive society can be created.

CONCLUSION

The movie *Zootopia* (2016) conveys important themes about stereotypes and discrimination, and the ways in which the characters in the movie resist and overcome prejudices in their society. This study has illustrated the various stereotypes that exist among animal species, such as predators being perceived as dangerous and herbivores being perceived as weak. Clear examples include Nick's dialogue referring to himself as a "sly fox" and Judy as a "dumb bunny," as well

as the view that sheep like Bellwether are weak and submissive creatures. Discrimination is also shown through actions such as giving Judy parking lot duty simply because she is a rabbit, and the prejudice that predators are always a threat, as seen when Judy inadvertently reinforces this stereotype during a press conference.

The resistance to stereotypes is seen when Judy Hopps breaks the stereotype that rabbits cannot be police officers by becoming the first officer of her species in the ZPD. She shows that ability and determination are more important than species. The friendship and partnership between Judy and Nick Wilde also show that mutual understanding and cooperation can transcend stereotypical boundaries, proving that predators and herbivores can work together to achieve common goals.

In addition, resistance to discrimination is seen when Judy shows that discrimination in employment can be fought with hard work and competence. Despite initially being assigned to be a parking lot attendant, she managed to solve a major case and proved her ability as a police officer. Judy also fights discrimination with direct action, such as when she defeats Gideon Grey and reclaims her friends' tickets, showing that herbivores can also be strong and brave.

Zootopia offers valuable lessons on how stereotypes and discrimination can be overcome through courage, hard work and mutual understanding. The characters in this movie, especially Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde, show that one's identity and abilities do not have to be defined by their species. *Zootopia* manages to convey a strong message about the importance of fighting stereotypes and discrimination. Through its complex characters and meaningful plot, the movie invites audiences to reflect on the impact of prejudice and discrimination, and the importance of inclusion and equality. This study shows that *Zootopia* is more than just an animated movie; it is a social reflection that encourages positive change and a deeper understanding of social justice.

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