

AMERICAN DREAM CONCEPT FOUND IN LA LA LAND MOVIE

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Abstract

American Dream is a sort of ethos or a set of beliefs that guide United States citizens as they exist on a daily basis. The set of ideals individual rights, freedom, democracy, equality is arguably centered on the belief that each individual has the right and freedom to seek prosperity and happiness, regardless of where or how they were born and the ability through hard work to grow out of whatever social or economic surroundings they find themselves in at any given time. La Land is an American romantic musical film written and directed by Damien Chazelle. This movie tells about two people who meet and fall in love while pursuing their dreams in Los Angeles. There are several types of American dream found in this film; one of them is Dream of Freedom of Choice, that is feel free to everyone to have their own lifestyle according to what they want. The aim of this research is to know what the correlation between American dream that be found in La La Land movie.

Keywords : American dream, Concept, Movie, La La Land

Introduction

"The american dream is that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement. it is a difficult dream for the European upper classes to interpret adequately, and too many of ourselves have grown weary and mistrustful of it. it is not a dream of motorcars and high wages merely, but a dream of social order inwhich each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and be recognized by others regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position. In film "La La Land" tells the concept of American Dream that be found in this film. From

nothing to be something it can describe the character's struggle, they have a big fighting spirit to achieve her dream.

This paper focuses on the concept of American Dream that can be found spirit in La La Land Movie

Methodology

This paper employs critical discourse analysis, which is the study of individual meaning-making that seeks to understand or challenge the "underlying ideologies that play a role in the reproduction of or resistance of dominance or inequality" (van Dijk, 1995, 18). Critical discourse analysis focuses on the ways relations of power, dominance, inequality, or other

social factors are reproduced or resisted by social group members through text and talk. This paper focuses on the ways that a small number of educated black Americans perceive the American Dream, how it relates to their personal identities, and in what ways, if any, the American Dream has been misappropriated by the dominant discourse on the subject.

Critical discourse analysis does not seek to generalize its findings, does not rely on positivist causality, does not have hypotheses or variable testing, is not meant to be replicable, and recognizes that the researcher, as a member of the society being observed, is not able to be completely objective. Critical discourse analysis is the best method for this particular paper because it analyzes the ways in which different discourses are constructed in relation to a dominant discourse, which is the American Dream.

Discussion

La La Land is a American romantic musical film written and directed by Damien Chazelle. This movie tells about two people who meet and fall in love while pursuing their dreams in Los Angeles.

La La Land begins like most days do in Los Angeles; stuck in traffic. Mia is an aspiring actress on her way to work as a barista.

Sebastian is a jazz pianist who aspires to own his own night club. The two share a moment of road rage when Sebastian waves to Mia with only one finger.

Later that the day, Mia joins her roommates for a night out on the town with them. Her car is towed, so Mia walks home. Along the way, she stumbles upon a restaurant where Sebastian plays is piano. The manager fires him for playing jazz instead of Christmas songs. Mia tries to tell him how amazing his playing is, but Sebastian storms past her. Sometime later, Mia again runs into Sebastian at a party where he's playing in an 80s cover band. This time, Sebastian actually talks to Mia, albeit reluctantly at first, and eventually invites her to go see Rebel Without a Cause.

The relationship becomes strained when Sebastian joins his friend's band. He tours cross country for months on end, and talks little to Mia during this time. This is not what he wanted for his life, and Mia confronts him about it. She says he's sacrificing his life goals for a band he doesn't like.

A casting director, who was in the audience of Mia's play, calls Sebastian. She is looking for Mia, and wants her to audition for a part. Sebastian drives to Boulder City to get her, and bring her back in time to make the audition. Before Mia hears back from the casting director, Sebastian tells her she must devote

everything to becoming a success. They decide they will always love each other no matter what happens.

Mia gets the part, and moves to Paris. The two lovebirds drift apart. Mia becomes famous, marries another man, and has a little girl. Sebastian gets the night club he always wanted, but apparently doesn't have a new girlfriend to call his own.

This study is using descriptive qualitative method to analyze. Like any other qualitative research design, the goal is to obtain the relation between American Dream in La La Land movie.

Some dialogues in La La Land movie reveals about the American Dream, such as:

a. Believing in dream.

"They worship everything and value nothing." – **Sebastian**. From the dialogue, It shows us what happens when you dare to dream and give your all to have that dream fulfilled. The movie takes us to a place where men and women are able to weave magic with their sheer talent. Regular people in America may laugh at this movie and think they're foolish for following their dream.

The thing about Americans, regardless of political party, race or religion is that they not only want to believe, they need to believe. Making people "*believe*" in their dreams has

been the film industry's goal from day one. It showed that people in America doesn't get enough motivation to pursue their dream.

b. Hope

La La Land shows us that is not foolish to follow our dream. Sometimes reality can be really different from our expectations, but all we need is hope and hardwork. Just like this dialogue :

"Maybe I'm not good enough!" –

Mia

"Yes you are!" – **Sebastian**

"Maybe I'm not, it's like a pipe dream!" – **Mia**

"This is the dream! It's conflict and compromise, and it's very, very exciting!" – **Sebastian**

c. Politics

This movie is often associated with politics. A recent spurt in hate crime against immigrants and racist attacks in the country make it suddenly difficult to imagine America as a land of dreams. For years, US has been a safe and preferred destination for people who came to the country with nothing but sheer amount of talent and a bag full of dreams.

The country's very identity originated from its generosity to talent and individualism above class, creed and colour. For years, it celebrated talent and provided a safe place for those who had some of it. The same can't be said anymore

given the short-sightedness of its new political regime.

It shows us that people in America buried their hope not only because their own lack, but also because of politic issues.

Conclusion

American dreams are a freedom to reach our own dreams without getting pessimistic and pull a maximum effort to reach it. In film "La la land" American dreams is showed to the viewer that they can reach their own dreams.

It is used the liberal ideology to discuss this kind freedom to be more seldom. Even though in is a specialized area of study which focuses attention upon the relation between a literary work and the social structure in which it is created.

The relationship between this study and liberal ideology is the ideology, historians and the literary critics.

"La la land" film reveals the Americans dreams, such as ; freedom, high expectations, motivate yourself, finding ways to achieve goals, and have high confidence, not resigned.

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