

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN HINDI CINEMA: AN ANALYTICAL STUDY**¹Ms. Priya Upadhyay, ²Dr. Bhawani Shankar**¹PhD Scholar, School of Media and Communication Studies, Galgotias University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India.²Assistant Professor, School of Media and Communication Studies, Galgotias University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India.pupadhyay26@yahoo.com bhawani.shankar@galgotiasuniversity.edu.in**Abstract**

Purpose: Hindi cinema plays a very important role in impacting people's lives and it also plays a role in constructing and deconstructing gender roles and stereotypes. This study shows how women have been portrayed in the last twenty years, that is from 2000-2020, in Hindi Cinema. Bollywood movies reflect the practices that take place in our societies. This research was important to understand the representation of women and to find out if there is any evolution or devolution of women characters.

Methodology: The researcher took four blockbuster movies from the list of highest grossing movies. The methodology researchers used is content analysis to study the plot of selected movies.

Findings: However, there is not a specific pattern of evolution or devolution. But we can say that, surely our cinema has made progress in representation of women. Women are no more portrayed as submissive or idealized women, now they are as strong independent women with career choices and decision making powers. There is a noticeable decrease in sexist and misogynistic comments towards women.

Key words- Hindi Cinema, Bollywood, Women, Representation

Introduction

Hindi cinema is very prominent and it impacts and engages with people's lives in various ways. These movies play a very important role in constructing and generating stereotypes. This study will show how the representation of women has changed in the 20 year span. Women are mostly shown as side characters, they are mostly dependent on male characters and do not have a say in any decision making and important part of the movies. Majority of the Bollywood films have something in common that is men are mostly portrayed with characters that meet the society's definition of masculinity while female roles are reduced to misogynistic ideals. And this has led to inequality among men and women. They are mostly there to support male protagonist. Their opinion doesn't matter. They are mostly shown as unidirectional characters; they are either good or bad. There's no in between. Many times women are shown just as a sexual object. With time movies have undergone so many changes and we will study the progress of representation of women over time. Some previous studies have shown that blockbuster movies of Hindi cinema in the seventies had women with different working roles but these working women characters

vanished from cinema and came downhill in the nineties and became confined to house makers. But we cannot ignore the fact that because of feminist critique and awareness of people about equality for all sexes, there can be seen a significant change in the representation of women in movies. So in this research, the researcher will be focusing on those aspects also and how the market changes the point of movies. There are also different schools of thoughts and some of them believe in social impact and some of them don't. But somehow these cinema and media platforms really impact the lives of people in many different ways. Indian cinema has been in the long run portraying women as only sexual objects or an "ideal" woman confined to the responsibilities of their husbands and homes. There is a need for us to be aware about our rights and cinema should help us spread awareness instead of promoting a specific ideal image of women. So many girls/women being influenced by these representations and getting harassed by their own family members because they do not know that they can raise their voice against all these. That is why there is a need to stop portraying these characters and start spreading awareness towards rights and equality.

Rationale of the study

Women in cinema has long been an important issue in social sciences. It raises important discussion and questions about theater and movies as a tool to raise some issues and social awareness towards women. It is important to study and investigate the roles of women in such movies. Understanding all these issues and being aware about feminism and our fight towards inequality is very important for us also. We need to be aware and it is our duty to spread awareness towards representation of women in Indian Cinema as it is a very vast and important means of media and this also impacts our lives. This study will add to the existing literature by giving a specific time period to the topic of representation of women in representative movies. And due to the representation of women as very fair, slim, beautiful and so-called perfect bodies, we see so many girls with body image issues suffering from eating disorders. Women are not someone's belongings, they belong to themselves, they can be grey in different situations, they are not just black and white or good and evil. There are so many shades of women. The objective of the study is to understand the representation of women in blockbuster Hindi films and to study the evolution or devolution of female protagonists over the years.

Review of literature

Nidhi Shendurnikar Tere (2012) discussed feminist approach in her study of Gender Reflections in Mainstream Hindi Cinema. She has focused on feminist approach to cinema that asks many relevant queries like however ladies are delineated on screen, however women's problems are treated in cinema, what will women's rights mean to film-makers, however will this agenda exhibit on screen feminist approach to cinema that asks many pertinent queries like however ladies are delineated on screen, however women's problems are treated in cinema, what will women's rights mean to film-makers, however will this agenda exhibit on screen, how are the male and female characters are positioned in the movie and what is the role of female film-

makers and female writers in exhibiting women's issues through films. Feminist theorist took up a distinct stand and criticized the objectification, exclusion, misogyny and silence of women in cinematic narratives. She has also looked upon the stereotyping of women in cinema and how most of the time they are only present for visual pleasure or just to support male characters in their journey. Movies have additionally been influenced to an oversize extent from faith and mythology whereby girls characters were seen because the epitome of morality and values, those that may perform no wrong. The image of girls as Sita has been shown in movies such a large amount of times once independence. Through these concepts and ideas of loyalty, morality, morality and obedience to the husband, Hindi cinema with success institutionalized and incorporated patriarchic values. Films like 'Dahej' (1950), 'Gauri' (1968), 'Devi' (1970), 'Biwi ho to Aisi' (1988), 'Pati Parmeshwar' (1988) delineated girls as passive, submissive wives as excellent figures and sufferers, victims of their own families.

Sifwat Moini (2016) showed the different ways in which women characters have been portrayed in Indian cinema in the study Female Protagonist in Hindi Cinema Comparative study of Representative Films From 1950 to 2000. For the feminist critique in the research, some issues have been taken care of, like the extent to which women have been stranded to patriarchal society norms and family institutions and will they ever get freedom from these realities and stereotypes related to women. This study also deals with different representation of women in Cinema like women as wives, women as mothers and Unwed Mothers, Women as Daughters, Women as Courtesans and Prostitutes and Women as Rape Victims. She analyzed a total of 10 female protagonists from the 1950s to 2000s and according to her Indian Cinema is not quite known for raising social issues. The female lead is always portrayed secondary to the male lead. Her role is laid out in support and context of any male character which is vital and essential for the script. It may be the male lead, the villain, the boss, the elder male member of the family, etc. She is deprived of any independent existence and liberation in her journey throughout the film and her character throughout the movie is explored in relation to the male character.

Udita Jhunjhunwala (2017) discussed From the conventional representations and representation of mother, wife and sister with unrealistic qualities inspired by characters from Hindu mythology and a mother-figure fixation, or vamps, monstrous and evil figures, women in Hindi cinema are no longer entirely painted in black and white. People are doing so much to gain equality among genders. So many people are raising awareness also by questioning these women's representations and due to these filmmakers have started making women oriented movies. There are some movies which have raised awareness and portrayed different colors. This article deals with the positive side of these representations and how the representation of women in Hindi cinema has come a long way from the early era when playing lead characters was not considered good and this profession was completely taboo for women. There's no surprise, that whereas male characters were playing lawyers, doctors and gangsters, among others, female characters were teachers, secretaries and students. In the last few years, though, we have seen broadening of this space too, with female characters playing different occupations like CEOs, detectives, boxers, politicians, journalists, marketing managers, bank robbers, gangsters, secret service

agents, and cable TV operators. Nishtha Madaan & Sameep Mehta (2017) analyzed in their study that movies are the reflection of our society and one could understand the situation of how prevalent these gender biases and stereotypes are in the society through these movies. They have analyzed gender stereotyping in movies through different aspects like the occupation of characters, centrality of male and female characters, promotional mentions and dialogues, etc. And as a result they analyzed how mostly women are shown as housewives, and how most of the movies are male centric and we can count women centric movies on our fingers, the variation between screen time, etc. In movies there are always these stereotypes present regarding women being depicted as ideal and imbibing values, ideas, principles and morals in their behavior. Their emotions, desires, ambitions, feelings, perspectives are completely missing from the scene. They do not have life of their own, they are docile, domestic sometimes reckless and irresponsible. They are mostly present just to support male characters.

Vatika Sibal (2018) highlighted the points where women are stereotyped in certain ways. They showed that the decade of nineties in Hindi cinema was one which popularized the genre of family drama. There were many family films which went on to become blockbusters and these films institutionalized the patriarchal values of the Indian society. In these movies women were an important part but they did not have any identity even now also mostly all movies are male centric and women are portrayed only as a side character or just as sexual objects or visual treats. Their roles are defined in relation to their family, especially the male characters in the family. Most of these films also charted down the conditions for perfect and flawless womanhood. There is a direct connection between patriarchal ideas and values and popular Hindi cinema and how these ideas and values get reinforced in Indian society through these films and different mediums.

According to Snigdha Deshmukh (2020) John Berger, the English art critic and novelist said, “Men act, women appear. Men watch, women watch themselves being watched” in his 1972 essay on art criticism titled, ways that of Seeing, adding to his analysis on the illustration of girls across media whereas mentioning and introducing the construct of the ‘male gaze’. Keeping in mind the surrealistic ideals and pictures represented in many films, and also the lack of girls illustration behind movies like administrators, writers, etc and it doesn't return as a surprise that the Indian business movie industry screen and industry is commonly looked upon as a male-dominated industry. Not solely on-screen there's large inequality within the variety of men in comparison to girls in key off-screen processes like script-writing, film-making, and direction. And these disparities have resulted in gender biases and stereotypes. Why does Indian cinema shy away and avoid taking the middle path? Where are the women who take decisions as per the situation they face in their lives? Where are the women who negotiate and fight with troubles on a daily basis and come out as winners? However, in these changing times several successful movies directed by women have caught attention and few of these pieces are slowly bringing in a much-needed change to the cinema, through representation of girls from all aspects of life.

Methodology

This study uses the representation mode of analysis to critically study the representation of characters in selected movies. This study deals with the representation of women in Hindi cinema. Researcher took the films belonging to mainstream Bollywood cinema from the time period of 2000-2020. Because of this profuse nature of Bollywood cinema and its diversity in terms of characters, plots and stories, there are hundreds of movies being created and produced every year, and in order to choose appropriate movies for this study, researcher used a criteria written down below-

Box Office collection- Researcher took the top grossing movies from every year from the time period of 2000-2020 and then divided the time span into four parts that are 2000-2005, 2006-2010, 2011-2015, 2016-2020 and every group researcher took the top commercially grossing movie. That's how researcher got 4 top grossing movies.

List of movies-

Top Grossing movie from 2000-2005

- Kabhie Khushi Kabhi Gum

Top Grossing movie from 2006-2010

- 3 Idiots

Top Grossing movie from 2011-2015

- PK

Top Grossing movie from 2016-2020

- Dangal

These selected movies were closely studied by researcher and from each of these movies female protagonists were analyzed, the representation of women, their evolution or devolution. There were some parameters researcher used for analyzing these representation

- The female protagonist in the movie- is she dependent or independent?
- Bold or weak character/active or passive.
- Significance of female character
- Focus on career choices
- Are there any sexual objectification of women in movies?
- Are there any incidents of gender being stereotyped?

Representation of female protagonist in selected films- A critical analysis

1. KABHI KHUSHI KABHI GHAM

As we know that Indian cinema plays a very important role in our society. It is the source of media that has impacted people's lives in various ways. It has affected our thoughts, our dreams, our goals and our expectations to a great extent. Some movies educate people, some expose and some are there just for entertainment purposes. These movies reflect our society, our cultures, our traditions and most importantly our thoughts. It also reflects our family, patriarchy, how

women are being treated, etc. and kabhi khushi kabhi gham is an example of the same. This is the story about a very rich patriarchal family living in Delhi. There are four members in the family, the father played by Amitabh Bachchan, the mother played by Jaya Bachchan, an adopted elder son played by Shah rukh khan and a younger son played by Hrithik Roshan. The story starts when Shah rukh khan comes back from abroad after studying and then falls in love with a poor "low status" girl played by Kajol. But his father denies his son's decision of marrying the girl. After this, the son leaves the house with his wife and her little sister. They all go out of the country and then how the younger son tries to reconnect the family. It's a Yash production directed by Karan Johar and it was the most patriarchal movie on the list. It is very misogynistic and it portrayed that a married woman's life revolves around her family. It categorized women primarily in two roles that are of wife and mother and we can see that according to Indian cinema, these two roles are the most important roles of women. It exemplified the gender stereotypes, it centralized women to be important and only for the purpose of nurturing and oriented towards their family. She has nothing to do with her career choices, her life choices, her importance as a person. She is just there to support the male members and this movie portrayed these stereotypes very efficiently. It symbolizes that married women have only one "duty" that is to serve her husband and other people in the family. In this movie Shahrukh Khan's mom played by Jaya Bachchan could not even fight for herself when they cut off ties with their son Shahrukh Khan. She was supposed to settle with whatever decision her husband took. This displayed the stereotype of women being submissive and how they are supposed to be submissive.

So, through this we can see how could not even take a stand and how it was not in her hands. There is not any significance of Kajol's sister played by Kareena Kapoor. We can very clearly see that she was there only for glamorization. Being the main character, She hadn't had a very specific role in the full movie. These types of movies and their representation of women in movies plays a very important role in degrading the work of feminist people. These movies throw water on the hard work people have done to get a little bit of equality. This movie shows that women have a lower position in the family which is very inappropriate and degrading for our people. These things encourage men to treat women as less compared to men. They think that it is okay for women to sacrifice their life for their family. These patriarchal movies also encourage women to be submissive and not fight against the discrimination towards them. There is a sense of authority and control shown in movies like the character portrayed by Jaya Bachchan never argues or denies the decisions and orders of her husband, character portrayed by Amitabh Bachchan. Comparing it to feminist film critique theory, women are depicted as passive character who is present in the movie only for visuals and pleasure for male audience. According to this theory there are three perspectives in film on women's objectification. First is the perspective of male protagonist about the female protagonist. The second is the spectator's perspective of the female protagonist on screen. The third is the perspective of male audience about male protagonist in the film and I think to make it more sexual for men, they sexually objectify women, so that male audience members get pleasure in watching objectification of

women. They do not see women as a human being, they see her as an object. they can do anything with them, it's their authority over females. According to researcher, it is a very stereotypical Bollywood movie and the female characters in the movie were very dependent, submissive, they did not have their own opinions and most importantly they were objectified in the movie.

1. 3 IDIOTS

This film starring Aamir Khan as Rancho, R.Madhavan as Farhan and Sharman Joshi as Raju was a blockbuster hit. This movie also has a female protagonist but not having an important role. The plot of the movie would be the same with or without them. This is the story about 3 men who go to an engineering college and become best friends. It is about their journey, their ups and downs in college. It was a good movie in general, but it too have some loopholes regarding gender inequality, discrimination, harassment and objectification of women.

The female protagonist did not have decisions to make, it is shown in the movie that her father wanted their daughters to become doctors and she was shown as a doctor. The Female protagonist has shown as bold, she is not a very active character for the story because she is just a love interest of male protagonist and daughter of the principal of college. She does not have any big role, she is not impacting the story very much. She has a career and she is good at it. She does not sacrifice her career for somebody else but yes, she did not choose her career herself. She became a doctor for the sake of her father ,it was not her choice. She did not choose her profession. The plot of the movie is very interesting, it is a good movie in general. Even though there are so many articles on this movie, Indian articles as well as foreign articles, very few of these people have acknowledged that 3 Idiots has a serious problem regarding gender perspective. This movie has various mentions of rape and comments about women's body and this is even worse that they used all these comments and harassment to create humor. As we all know that in India, the number of crimes towards women like rape, eve teasing and domestic abuse are increasing day by day and we know that movies and cinema are very major promoter of these crimes. These things are being glorified in so many movies. Due to this people think that it is not a very big crime and they can get away with this. The dialogues used in movies are way more pathetic. The words they have used for girls like 'maal', 'tijori' and all. They are the words used to refer a woman and this is the major example of how they do not take women as human beings, they take them as objects. These words harass us and the male section of our society is getting encouraged by these things. They abuse their female partners, they indulge in marital rapes because they think that they have the authority over the women they are married to. They have shown assault through these dialogues like 'mai tum par balatkar karunga', 'akeli ladki ek khuli tijori ki tarah hoti hai', and the first part is that they use these in order to create comedy and this displays or portrays that harassment towards women is not a serious topic for people, they make jokes about. There are no strict rules to remove all these. It is a very serious issue and people all over the world are fighting for equality.

This movie displays women as strong characters but there are also incidents of women being objectified not for main female character but there are comments for women in general, there are

rape jokes in the movie and here comes the importance of liberal feminism. Liberal feminist argues that there are need of laws and rights to eradicate discrimination and it is very true, for all things to stop we need concrete rules so that we have some power to atop all these. and by saying power we mean legal power and rights. With all these legal powers, we also need awareness so that we can become aware of our rights and we can spread this awareness. There are so many cases where woman does not know that she can get legal help against domestic abuse or any other discrimination, and yes we need to fight for our rights and we need to change these movies, we need to change people's perception towards women and the media plays a vital role in changing our outlook towards women.

2. PK

It is a story about an alien played by Aamir khan who lands on Earth naked on a research mission but he becomes trapped when his remote control through which he can communicate with his own planet is stolen. Meanwhile, there is a scene showing Jaggu in Belgium meeting a Pakistani muslim man named Sarfaraz played by Late Sushant Singh Rajput and they fall in love and they both decide to get married but due to some misunderstood circumstances they were not able to get married and then she comes back to India and meets Aamir khan and then she helps him in finding his remote control and going back to his planet. This movie faced heavy criticism on the basis of religion and traditions. There is not as such feminist film criticism and we can see that how the female protagonist is very independent, has a good career and puts her private life professional life in front. She does not sacrifice anything because we know how Bollywood portrays women as sacrificial beings and she does not think twice before sacrificing her career and her personal life for the motherly and wifely duties. We have seen how she is supposed to be very homely, submissive and have motherly instincts. Movies always portray their image as ‘sati savitri’. They portray her as a person who is nothing without her husband or father. We can see how women are taught to be very delicate and how they are supposed to put their family first before their own self. But in this movie it is not like that and the female protagonist is portrayed very strongly and she stands for her marriage choices, she stands for her choice, she even chooses her husband herself, but there is no denying the fact that sometimes we can not find these stereotypes. We need a very critical analysis to observe even the smallest incidents of gender stereotyping and all. In this movie the female protagonist is very bold and knows what to do for her life and how to take decisions on her own, but there is an incident where fashion is stereotyped in the movie. We can see how people criticize the character of Aamir khan when he comes out wearing a skirt. And we can see how he doesn't even know that on earth there is a specific set of clothes for different genders. There is a character of prostitute and she is being treated as a human being and not as sex machine in the movie. We know how sex workers are portrayed in movies. Their image is portrayed as a very clever and money minded person. She is mostly portrayed as an extremely selfish and a negative character. So in total this movie is pretty good in terms of feminist reviews, and the female protagonist is shown to be very strong. She

even disagrees with her parents when they are wrong and makes them understand their mistake. She fights with superstition and she helps the male protagonist in going back to his planet, but her mother who is not the main character is shown as the married dependent woman who cannot take any decision herself. It is portrayed that she cannot even take her own decision of talking to her daughter. She cannot talk to her daughter because her husband does not allow his family to meet Jaggu. Jaggu's mother is characterized as an ideal and an obedient wife for whom her husband is god and she cannot deny his decisions. There are some incidents of gender stereotyping. There is an example of fashion being gender stereotyped.

4. DANGAL

This movie is inspired by a real life story of a man named Mahavir Singh Phogat and his daughters. Mahavir singh phogat was a national level wrestling player but he could not play at more advanced level due to some societal pressure of settling and getting a job for stable income. Everyone wanted him to get married and have a so-called 'normal' life. He does so, he gets married and becomes a father to four daughters. But amidst all these he still feels incomplete and inconvenient. He always regrets his decision of settling and not continuing his game and because of all this he always wanted to have a boy so that he could fulfill his desires of being world player and to fulfill the dreams of winning the gold medal for the country, this thinking in itself is very toxic and this is where a feminist lens comes to existence and examine the gender stereotypes and gender roles. Why this is the assumption, that only boys are good at sports? He becomes very sad after a girl is born as the first child. This in itself is very gender stereotypical where he cannot even think of a girl being a wrestler. Then Phogat's wife again gets pregnant but again, a girl is born. He gets very upset and we can see that he treats his daughters very fairly. He is not unfair towards them. It is just inbuilt misogyny which does not allow him to think that he can train his daughters and his daughters can fulfill his dreams of winning a gold medal for the country. He does not want to be perceived as sexist and misogynistic by his wife but he tells her that it is not her fault but he thinks that he cannot fulfill his dreams of winning. Moving on with the movie, we get to see that Phogat's wife becomes pregnant again twice in the hope of giving birth to a son but each and every time they become parents to daughters. after four daughters, he loses all his hope and they again start living the normal life. The story moves further and there is this incident that takes place one day where his two elder daughters beat up some boys who were messing with them. And after this incident he gets insight and his mentality changes and he thinks of training his daughters. He starts training his daughters and his daughters make excuses and all because they are not interested in wrestling in the beginning. He copped their hair, make restrictions on them, he restrict them from doing all sorts of 'girly' things because being girly is a sign of weakness and all these things distract girls.

This movie is a very good example of girls being equal as boys. They broke gender norms and stereotypes as they have shown that like boys, girls can also be good at sports. People think that girls cannot play games, they are not sporty or they are made for just homely things and duties. In India , we think that girls are privileged when they are treated equally. We have been treated so unequally that now we think that we are lucky when we see us getting our basic rights. This is

the true story based in Haryana which is a very male dominant place and here too we can see patriarchy, we can see how his wife and his daughters are bound to listen and follow his decisions.

We can also see an incident where Mahavir's wife shows concern for their daughter's marriage because they are becoming so manly due to heavy training. We can see that the image of women being very delicate, small is idealized in our society and cinema and media plays a very important role in creating these images. There are specific demands about weight, looks and body structure for women to enter in the media. These things have created gender stereotypes and how one should look. We can say that these movies also included some gender stereotypes but this movie has also broken some of them.

Conclusion

Researcher analyzed a total of four movies and their female protagonists in the time period of 20 years. These movies were Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Gham, 3 Idiots, PK and Dangal. Researcher studied the plot, the role of the female protagonist and women's representation. It was difficult to trace any evolution or devolution because if one is good then the other one is bad. There is not a specific pattern in movies but cinema and media have a long way to go and they have so much to improve. However, we can make a rough sketch and say that there are some evolution and improvements our cinema made with time. Now we can see women being portrayed as strong independent people rather than being submissive. K3G's female characters are shown as so-called ideal type women who do not fight back or who do not make their own decisions and take their husbands as god, they do not have any career choices, their only motive is to serve their husbands and then children. But as we go further, in 3 Idiots we can see that women do have careers, it is still very patriarchal because it was not her decision to take up that career but her father does not confine them in home. He encourages them to take education and become an independent person. Then in PK we can really see the evolution of women's representation. We can see how she is a very independent character and fights for her rights. She is not submissive and has a personality of her own. Further in Dangal, a women oriented movie we can still see gender being stereotyped but we can also see them being destroyed by the characters. We can say that within the list of movies researcher took, there is a rough graph of evolution. Women will become equal to men when being treated fairly and getting basic rights is not perceived as being privileged.

There is a major link between the market, society and films. Our society is evolving day by day and people are becoming aware of their rights and cinema can become a very major tool in spreading awareness. Cinema can highlight social issues and it can also help in addressing the issue that is why there is a significant change in representation of women.

In Indian cinema, women making sacrifices is idealized. It portrays patient and obedient women as ideal women. We can observe so many incidents where women who do not fight for their own rights are considered as ideal and homely women. There are so many women and men who are getting impacted by these images. They think that so called ideal women can not be independent,

she is not supposed to have a career, they think that women are supposed to become housewives. they do not have a stand or personality of their own. They cannot fight for themselves. People think that men have authority over women. So we can say that the sufferings of women are being idealized in our cinema. According to our cinema, women who make sacrifices for their family are the perfect women. Their sacrifices are glorified and honored and this conveys the message to young girls that it is a very great gesture and they have to replicate this to get love and respect. This is very harmful and degrading for them because these things become inbuilt and then it becomes difficult to get rid of this misogynistic mindset. And this leads to women being harassed in the name of love and responsibilities.

The second main thing is dialogues and vocabulary being used in movies. Indian cinema seems to be very careless about the impact of words on people's views, thoughts and mentality. It is also pointed out above, where researcher analyzed 3 Idiots. The dialogues there are very sexist. they have referred women as 'tijori, khuli kitaab' and this is not even a very big deal for writers of films I can say that for them it is very normal to use these words, but they are very degrading and harmful because it encourages the sexual objectification of women. Unknowingly they are referring women as objects, they don't know the impact of these things. This is the reason people do not understand women as human beings. They are like objects to them and this is impacting the teenagers and youth. They rape women and don't even think twice about that. India is the most prone country to rapes. and these songs, images portrayed and dialogues help in forming these thoughts in men.

Sexist comments and language have always been used in dialogue and this create even more discrimination. Movies glorifying stalking and making it cute. We all have come across the scenes in movies where women do not have any problem with comments being passed, touching without consent and men stalking. They absolutely do not have any problem with this. Movie ,Kabir Singh got a heavy criticism because of how he treats the female protagonist. He thinks that she is his property and this can be seen in many movies where men think that the girl is his property and he can do anything he wants with the girl and it is not a very big deal. And the icing on the cake is that girl falls in love with the same guy who harasses her or who is mean to her.

Songs also play a very important role in movies. It gives a break from the movie and makes movies more interesting. Through music we can study the structure of society and socio-culture values. But nowadays we can see so many songs being criticized for the lyrics. In today's cinema, almost every other song objectifies women, glorifies sexual comments, glorifies stalking, etc. these sexist comments and glorification of female bodies have a very severe effect on the body image issue of small girls growing up. So many girls do not feel confident in their own body because of the images these Bollywood movies have created. The representation of women straightforwardly made male protagonist the center of the universe, making herself an object and this representation of women in association and coalition with family and patriarchal views did not give importance to the development of identity of women. They do not have their own identity in movies. They are always shown as dependent people. There is always a stereotypical myth in movies which portray women as weak and unable to perform multitasking.

Now with the positive changes in Indian cinema, there are so many movies being made on social issues and women empowerment. These movies like *Pink*, *Lipstick under my Burkha*, *Secret Superstar* have really helped the society in spreading awareness and treating women as human beings rather than as objects. Cinema should stop portraying women in just two images of Sati Savitri or evil vamp. Directors and Producers should know that there are many shades of women and there are so many bold and strong women on whom movies can be made, they have to now change these idealized representations and start showing the real women, the bold ones, the ambitious ones. These representations can really help men and women to treat each other with equality.

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