

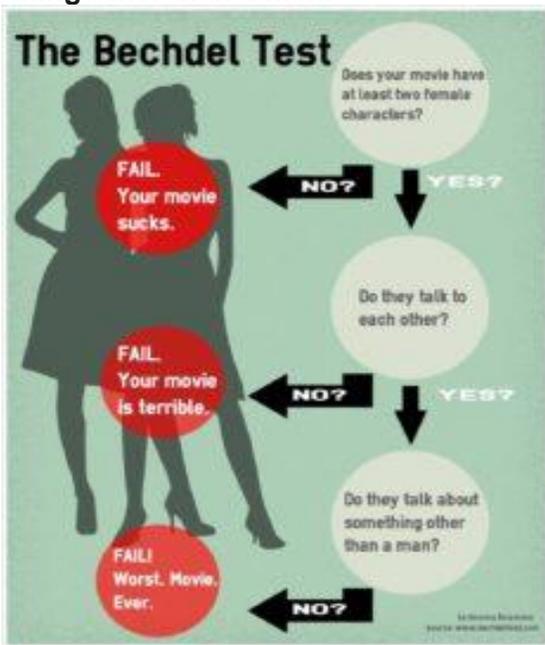


Newsletter 13th June 2022



Spotlight on – The Bechdel Test – the test aims to bring attention to and address gender inequality in media. It was created in 1985 by its namesake, cartoonist Alison Bechdel, and her friend Liz Wallace, hence it sometimes is called the *Bechdel-Wallace test*. The principle first appeared in a 1985 strip in Bechdel's comic *Dykes to Watch Out For*, which establishes its three-part rule:

The work needs to ①feature two female characters ②who talk to each other ③about something other than a man.



There's even an archive of films dedicated to those that pass and fail The Bechdel-Wallace test. The archive is closing in at 9,000 films at this point in time. In 2020, the archive shows that 78 films passed the Bechdel Test out of 329 films released in the U.S. and Canada. In non-pandemic years, an average 600 or 700 films have been added to the archive annually since 2006.

There are also other "Bechdel Tests" out there. The DuVernay Test, which is named after director Ava DuVernay, requires Black characters to have fully realized lives and not serve as props in white stories. For the Koeze-Dottle Test, a supporting cast must be more than 50% women to earn a passing score.

[What Is The Bechdel Test And How Has It Changed Film? \(reference.com\)](https://www.reference.com)



5 amazing female characters to inspire your feminist spirit
[5 amazing female characters to inspire your feminist spirit \(cosmopolitan.com\)](https://www.cosmopolitan.com)

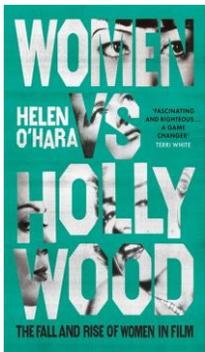
Lucy Worsley has spoken out about female representation in crime dramas, saying it's 'distasteful' that women are often the victim. The historian believes that placing 'dead, naked young women at the heart of crime dramas' is owing to the media looking at women 'through the eyes of men.' The 48-year-old, who is often the face of BBC programmes on historical topics, wants to switch the focus from helpless young female victims to female
[Historian Lucy Worsley says it is 'distasteful' that women are often the victim in crime dramas | Daily Mail Online](https://www.dailymail.com)



The number of women who review feature films has decreased in recent years as movie criticism remains a man's game, according to a new study. The report, titled "Thumbs Down: Film Critics and Gender, and Why It Matters," shows that in early 2022, males continue to outnumber their female counterparts by more than 2 to 1 in the U.S. Across print, radio, television and online outlets, men account for 69% of critics, women account for 31% and nonbinary individuals account for 0.3%. After the percentage of women increased "slightly but steadily" from 2016 to 2020, the statistic dropped by 4% in the last two years.
[Male Film Critics Still Outnumber Women, Study Shows - Variety](https://www.variety.com)



A strong female lead is more than just picking up a sword and saying, "I can do anything a man can do." Their journeys take on a complexity not afforded to many characters on television; courage that exists in both quiet decisions and loud proclamations, seemingly endless motivation and energy, and the wits and fortitude to outlast even the deadliest foes and demons. From the White House in *Scandal* to the depths of hell in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, check out a few of the smartest & strongest women to kick ass on the small screen.
[29 strong female characters on TV | EW.com](https://www.ew.com)



A call to arms from Empire magazine's 'geek queen', Helen O'Hara, that explores women's roles - both in front of and behind the camera - since the birth of Hollywood, how those roles are reflected within wider society and what we can do to level the playing field.

25 of the best movies directed by women.

These days, it's easy to list off a number of respected, well-known female directors—consider Greta Gerwig, Olivia Wilde, and Ava DuVernay, to name a few. But it wasn't so long ago that Hollywood was, by and large, a boys' club. While we've still got a long way to go, we've certainly taken big steps toward more equitable film sets. [The 25 Best Films Directed by Women | Marie Claire](#)

A dozen must-watch films by unbelievably talented Black female directors. These movies are Oscar-nominated, tear-jerking, sometimes laugh-out-loud stories told through the gaze in a way that will make the inner film buff in you soar. [Movies by Black Women Directors | Marie Claire](#)

Bossing it: why the women of big tech are taking over the small screen. The Tech Bro has become Hollywood's go-to villain. Now, TV is finally grappling with Silicon Valley's complex female entrepreneurs [Bossing it: why the women of big tech are taking over the small screen | Television | The Guardian](#)



Open letter signed by more than 100 actors and public figures urges end to entertainment industry's 'entrenched' ageism.

Actors including Juliet Stevenson, Meera Syal, David Tennant and Zawe Ashton have called for better onscreen representation of women older than 45 to fight against the "entrenched" ageism of the entertainment industry. In an open letter signed by more than 100 actors and public figures, the **Acting Your Age Campaign (AYAC)** called for equal representation in the UK between men and women over 45 and urged immediate action on a "parity pledge". [Actors call for better onscreen representation of women over 45 | Entertainment TV | The Guardian](#)

65 Essential Feminist Movies You Need to See

[65 Best Feminist Movies to Watch for Women's History Month - Top Women's Empowerment Film2s \(harpersbazaar.com\)](#)



Women Unsilenced: An Audience with Linda MacDonald and Jeanne Sarson. To mark this year's **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**, we're delighted to invite Linda MacDonald and Jeanne Sarson to introduce their work fighting against Non-State Torture - torture committed in the private or domestic sphere. Jun 26, 2022 01:00 PM [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



[Ukrainian Women in Wartime — FiLiA](#)



A new law specifically targeting non-fatal strangulation has come into effect in England and Wales. Yvonne Roberts explains why it is necessary [England's new strangulation law – and why it's needed – podcast | News | The Guardian](#)



March of the Mummies

Manchester! March of The Mummies is a national protest organised by **Pregnant Then Screwed** on Saturday October 29th 2022 across 7 cities around the UK. Each march is family friendly and although the subject matter is very serious, the marches are fun events with face painters and music.

What Are Our Demands? We believe there are three key issues that have a significant impact upon The Motherhood Penalty and we want the Government to acknowledge these issues and set out a plan for action. They are:

- 1) **Good quality affordable childcare for all children**
- 2) **Flexible working as the default**
- 3) **Ring fenced, properly paid paternity leave**

[March of the Mummies 2022 - Manchester Tickets, Sat 29 Oct 2022 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#)



The first and only museum in the world dedicated to celebrating girlhood. We are led by a global team dedicated to researching, interpreting, and preserving girls' history and culture. By equitably including girls and centering their voices and experiences, we foster new discussions that challenge traditional gender norms, provide inspiration, and foster true gender equality. Each year, we produce Exhibits, Collaborative Projects, Educational Activities, and Publications that help you explore girlhood in the past and present.

[Home - Girl Museum](#)