

Lesbian Stereotype Representation in Cinema in Turkey

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Abstract : Cinema, as a popular mass media tool, affects the general perception of the society against sexual identity. By establishing an interaction relationship with cinema and social reality, the study also tries to answer what the importance of lesbian identity in social life in films in Turkey is. This article focuses on representing the description of the women characters who call themselves lesbian in Turkey cinema. The study tries to answer these three questions: First, how are the lesbian characters represented in films in Turkey? Second, what is the reality of the lesbian sexual identity in the films? Third, what are the differences and similarities between the lesbian characters in films in Turkey before 2000s and after 2000s? The films are analysed by the sociological film interpretation in this study. When comparing the films before 2000 and after 2000, it is possible to say that there have been no lesbian characters in many films. Especially almost all of the films (Haremde Dört Kadın, Ver Elini İstanbul, Dul Bir Kadın, Gramofon Avrat, Lola and Billidikid), during the 1960s, just threw indirect looks at the lesbian sex identity. Just in the films *Düş Gezginleri*, *İki Genç Kız* and *Nar*, the women character (also called them as lesbian) are the leading role and the plot of the films is progressing over these characters.

Keywords : cinema in Turkey, lesbian identity, representation, stereotype

Conference Title : ICCME 2016 : International Conference on Cinema and Media Engineering

Conference Location : Berlin, Germany

Conference Dates : May 19-20, 2016