Interpreters' Images in Hollywood Films

Film is one of the most popular forms of mass media. It reflects reality, shapes images, and reinforces identities. As one of the biggest film industries, Hollywood films can have a significant influence on the perception of characters. This study attempts to analyze interpreters in contemporary Hollywood films to understand how they are represented to the public. Content analysis was conducted to analyze the roles of 38 interpreters from 23 films from the year 2000 to 2015. The study looked at interpreters' images from three perspectives: demographic composition, performance, and character type. The result showed that interpreters in Hollywood films were mainly male and non-professional interpreters. Over half of the interpreters were invisible, acting as conduits while some characters were designed to intervene to build up complexity among characters. In terms of narrative roles, most interpreters were static characters and helpers of the protagonist.


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