

The Consequential Role of Movie and Media in Education

Kumar Ambar Pandey

SSA (Photo/Video), FSL, GNCTD

Abstract

“Edutainment over entertainment”, is what people prefer to watch these days. There are endless examples of movies that serve this kind of content. Few movies work as an eye-opener for the audiences and depict the sad reality of the education system that we live and follow upon. However, the tools of entertainment being one of them, had served endless ideas to bring a change in our education system and make it more fulfilling and integral.

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Movies & Media combine; serve as a good source of food for the brains and souls of the audience. Cinema is leaving a long lasting impact on them and serving them few important lessons for life. They both play a consequential role in terms of education and entertainment, as well. Most of the movies rely on the edutainment content, which is to say that they serve education and entertainment on a proper and balanced note. Nowadays, education isn't restricted to just textbooks or print material, it has expanded its domains by means of the Media and Films, that targets the other senses of the audience as well rather than solely targeting a single sense of the audience, as in the case of textbooks, that solely engage the eyes of the viewers.

All the tools of media are highly associated and more trustworthy, when it comes to the concern of reachability of the content to the audience as they play a vital role in shaping and forming new ideas in the minds of its prospective consumers. Directly or indirectly, people are prone to the tools of media for a major part of their daily lives that keeps them updated on recent happenings and take them a step further on being digital natives.

It is a scientifically proven fact that visuals help in forming and shaping, the best of the images, in the minds of the audience and keeps the content alive in the living minds for longer as compared to simple texts. People understand the concepts and ideas in a better manner when they have actually seen the written content coming to life before their eyes, providing them insight into the minds and souls of the characters and understanding their situations and feelings in a more better manner. Sometimes, the audience even starts to put themselves in the shoes of the characters and think of what they might have done in the same situation as that of the character.

Not only for the students but for the teachers, the officials that have the control over the education system of India, Media and Cinema has served the new ideas time to time, so that can clearly stand out in shaping the young minds by implementing few changes in the education system. In a general manner, if you will ever think in a broader perspective or manner, you will find that you learnt some of life's

biggest lessons, from the movies or some other media tools. Let's have a look, as of how, consciously or unconsciously, Media and Cinema teaches you lessons for life and how we can learn and shape our society in the best of manner.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS- The powerful media tools that are easily available and accessible, are of much importance when talking about the knowledge that we as an audience can gain out of it. Needless to mention, the doors of acquiring knowledge and information via Media tools such as- Movies, Radio, Social Media, Television etc. are always open to us.

If we look from a broader perspective or point of view, we can easily find out that we learn something useful from every movie that we see or every news that we see or hear, over any media platform. However, if we start looking at things from a narrow perspective we will find out that we learn a handful and important lessons from a very few movies or news that ever cross our path. A lot depends on the perspective and understanding of the audience as well. For example- Same movie watched by 100 people can leave different impacts on all 100 of them (as it's all the game of perspective).

SOCIAL CHANGES- Few movies are made to bring a revolutionary change and make people aware of the social issues that are still prevalent in some or the other part of the country. There are so many examples of Bollywood movies that have hard-hitting social messages that were made to bring about a change among the audience. To make people aware of the happenings and do something to bring a change in the society and make this world a better place, to be.

Padman, Toilet: Ek Prem Katha, 3 Idiots, Article 15, Hindi Medium and many more movies make their way on the list of the movies based on social issues. The sole purpose of these movies is to bring a major change in society. These movies pass on hard-hitting messages directly triggering the social issue that every person on the planet might have gone through or observed during the various walks of life.

LESSONS FOR LIFE- Movies hold the power to teach the audience lessons that they savour for their whole lives. Movies that have relatable content actually fall for this category. These types of movies trigger the emotion of the audience and actually stand on peak positions for the whole lives of the few people. There are many movies that fall under this category and it depends on person-to-person, based on their perspective.

CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE- There is so much to learn from the movies. Some movies broaden our perspective and make room for healthy changes, make us more informed, give answers to our questions, raise new questions, enhance our logical reasoning and eventually make a remarkable spot in our small world. The most important of all being is the change of perspective and making room for new dimensions and ideas that majorly crosses our minds while we watch movies.

INSPIRATION- There are few movies that inspire us or even help us in making informed decisions. Concerned about the professional life of an individual, a person may actually think of joining the Indian Army after watching movies like- URI: The Surgical Strike, Gunjan Saxena: The Kargil Girl, Airlift, Rang De Basanti, Lakshya and many more.

These points make it clear that movies are impactful and they even serve as the major shapers of the minds and souls of the audience. There is so much to learn and acquire from the movies and media.

MOVIES THAT TAUGHT US-

Watching movies for educational purposes has been, is and will be beneficial, for all time long. Movie keep its audience gripped towards their compelling content and enhances, the learning power of the audience by means of visuals which are sure to grab a space in the minds of the audience. Watching a foreign movie with the help of subtitles even help the viewer to learn a foreign language, spell the words and even pronounce the words of any foreign language. Let's have a look at a few movies that have education as its main purpose to serve the audience.

3 IDIOTS (2009) - Serving us with the amazing mantra for life- 'ALL IS WELL'. This movie clearly depicts our much important sector of the society that is education and delivers keen messages as to how the schools and colleges focus on the theory portion of each subject rather than relying and depending on the practical which is more important. The movie reflects as to how the teachers focus on the bookish language and word-to-word definitions and there is no other way for students to describe the definitions in the language of their own, otherwise they will lose marks.

The movie speaks volume of how few students are forcibly made to opt for a specific career that is majorly engineering or medical by their parents. The movie tells us that all a person needs to study is a strong will and not the previous grades. The movie is based on a novel, Five Point Someone by Chetan Bhagat.

TAARE ZAMEEN PAR (2007)- The movie introduces Ishan Awasthi, a kid who is dyslexic and how he finds it difficult to read and write. This movie passes on a message that each kid possesses different capabilities, interests and should never be forced towards specific things and should be given full freedom to choose and pursue a field of their interest and choice.

The movie also reflects the life of small kids who are sent to boarding school by their parents in order to make them brilliant but they actually turn the life of kids miserable. However, in this movie, Ishan finds a way out to discover his true love towards art by the help of an art teacher, who understands the situation of Ishan and helps his parents to discover and know more about dyslexia and their kid. The movie is an inspiration for all the teachers to stand by the students, who need their support.

ENGLISH VINGLISH (2012)- The movie reflects the story of Shashi, an Indian homemaker and her journey of self-discovery. The movie also passes on the message that there is no set age bar for a person to complete his/her studies and life is all about overcoming your fears and doing what you fear the most with open arms, a broad smile and just enjoying the process of learning.

The movie delivers a clear message that a person should never feel inferior of his/her qualities and should always make room for the process of learning despite the busy schedule, a hectic life and a family. The movie focuses on the journey of self-discovery of Shashi.

HICHKI (2018)- The movie Hichki is an Indian adaptation of an autobiography of Brad Cohen's named, "Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made me the Teacher I Never Had". The movie focuses on the life of Naina Mathur, who aspires to become a teacher but she fails to find a perfect job for her and she faces rejection in each interview but despite all the problems she never gives up and

finally lands on a perfect job. As the story proceeds, the movie focuses on the journey of Naina as a teacher and how she is mocked and teased by her students but despite all these odd behaviours from the side of students, Naina inculcates the values of discipline and well-mannered behaviours in them. The movie also passes on a message that- “There are no bad students, only bad teachers.

PAATHSHALA (2010)- The movie depicts how the knowledge imparting institutions have simply become a means of earning higher profits for them rather than focusing on imparting knowledge and skill. The movie opens up on the loose ends of our education system and clearly depicts the issues of academic life of a person.

The movie is an eye-opener and clearly tells us how the education imparting institutions have become money-minded. It depicts as to how the institutions focus majorly on earning money and not on the agenda of imparting knowledge.

Other than these movies, there are so many others as well that have questioned our education system and worked as a mirror in depicting the relevant issues of the academic years of a person’s life. There is so much to learn from the movies. Maybe, we can even adapt the ideas that they serve and make changes in our education system and improve the ways of learning and living.

As mentioned previously, it's all about perspective. The same movie can leave different impacts on different people. As an audience, we can witness these movies and learn from them and maybe grab some new ideas from them to implement it in our lives.

Not only for students, but these movies also pass on some, much needed message to the parents and teachers, as well. They motivate them to be more supportive and bring out the best in each student and make the lives of the students a little brighter. Few movies even depict nicely as to how students should never be forced into any specific career rather they should be motivated and fully supported from all sides, to follow their passion.

“Learning and living should be the main agenda of all the people around the globe rather than earning and living”.

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