

Age and Ability

Holly Gates, ABD

Examples:

Finding Nemo: [Memory Loss](#)

Wizard of Oz: [If I Only Had A Brain](#)

Simpsons: [Car Crash](#)

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest: [Sink Scene](#), <http://disabilityfilms.co.uk/>

Constructions of Age and Ability

How is age/ability depicted (person, appearance, voice)?

What ages/abilities are represented?

How do people interact across and within ages and abilities?

Norms

What age/ability is normal in the text?

Are there effects for people based on their age/ability?

Does the text assume everyone is young and capable?

Audience

What ages/abilities is the text aimed at?

What ages/abilities is the audience asked to identify itself as?

Is the audience asked to participate in recognizing age/ability?

Ideology

Is the text neutral, does it support the status quo, or is it against it?

Are there multiple views on age/ability being advanced?

Is age/ability purposely absent from the media?

Does the text tell us anything about power in society?

Is morality tied to age/ability?

Rhetoric

How does the text convince you think in a particular way?

What are the details of the appeal?

Look to the components from the media analysis.