LGBTQ+ Representation in Entertainment Industry

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Abstract: *Entertainment industry includes Television shows, series, dramas, movies, songs, short films etc. But mostly we are talking about movies, series, dramas because these are mostly popular movies and all are not just for entertainment but also to educate and to raise awareness about certain topics. The media holds the power to change anything in a positive or negative way. Society trends to follow anything shown in movies/series. So it is important to represent any community or issues in the right way. The portrayal of lgbtq+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer +) people in media have always been in a wrong light. Although with the time change the representation has also changed in many ways.*

Keywords: LGBTQ+, LGBTQ+ community, entertainment industry

I. INTRODUCTION

Entertainment industry plays a very important role in our day to day life. People tend to follow things they see or listen through television, radio or print media. That's why entertainment industry such as films, series, dramas , shows ,songs ,etc have to represent every community in a right way

Here we are talking about LGBTQ+ community also known as 'queer ', LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer + .

As the time change the representation of LGBTQ+ community in movies Change as well

Representation of queer community in films is different in different countries

1.1 Objective:

- To study the representation of LGBTQ+ community in entertainment industry
- To study the difference between portraying the homosexual character in early years vs now
- To study the LGBTQ+ issues raised and discussed in movies and television

1.2 Research Question:

- Does entertainment industry portrayinglgbtq+ community in a right way?
- Does films/ television still shows LGBTQ+ community in a stereotype way?

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In early movies homosexual characters were portrayed for cheap comedy. They get very less screen time and all the time lead characters were making fun of them. They use to show gay characters as *Horny and happy* all the time. Movies like :'Clueless' 'golmaal returns: , 'bodyguard' , ' student of the year' . Is a biggest example .

when finally they start using this big platform to raise the issue faced by this community , most of the movies get banned or cancelled

Example :'fire' 1996 (Bollywood) 'Zoolander ' 2001 (Iran)'milk' 2009 (Hollywood)

After years of struggle finally this type of movie got a chance to release and they even won many awards .Now movies/ series are showing the problems and issues faced but LGBTQ+ community especially is South Asia . In western and North Asian countries -movie, series and dramas portrait LGBTQ+ community as a normal couple doing normal stuff , no one fighting for right,no one said anything homophobic just a normal romantic movies.

- According to Amber Raley and Jennifer Lucas The representation of LGBTQ community has changed since 2001 . Mostly in western cinema.

- In india when people don't know about this community and don't want to read about it that time cinema come forward to spread awareness about lgbtq+ community . from 90s cinema has been representing this community but of course it was not that powerful the way it is now. People are becoming more open minded and start accepting and appreciating these queer movies . (**mehakchugh and lalitkumar**)

- In Indian movies queer representation in the right way is slowly taking place . Some directions have tried raising issue related to this community but some issues still remain unexplored.(pushpinderkaur ; Punjabi University, India)

Hypothesis:

The representation of lgbtq+ community in entertainment industry is comparatively getting much better now

Sample Design

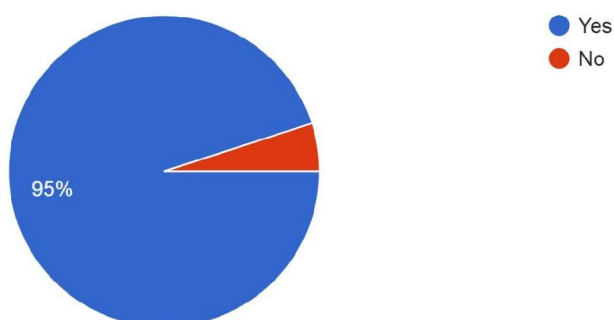The people within the age of 15 to 25 were my sample for this research and my sample size is 60

Data collection :

We used a close ended questionnaire method of data collection as a primary data collection with the help of google form .we also used secondary data collection.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

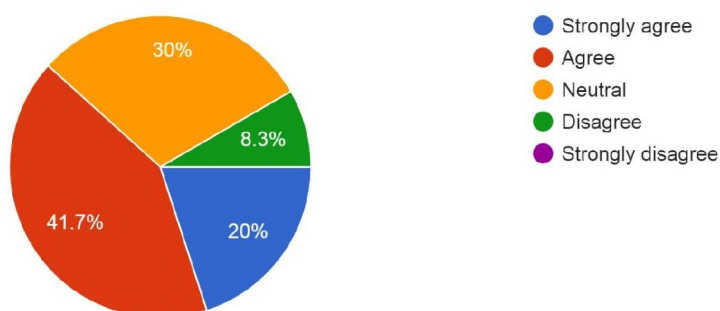Did you saw any LGBTQ+ character in any movie/ series/ drama ?

60 responses

Opening up with the first question . 95% of people have seen a lgbtq+ character in a movie/series/ drama , which represents that the entertainment industry is making sure to cast a queer character

The way entertainment industry represent any community effects how people treat them in real life
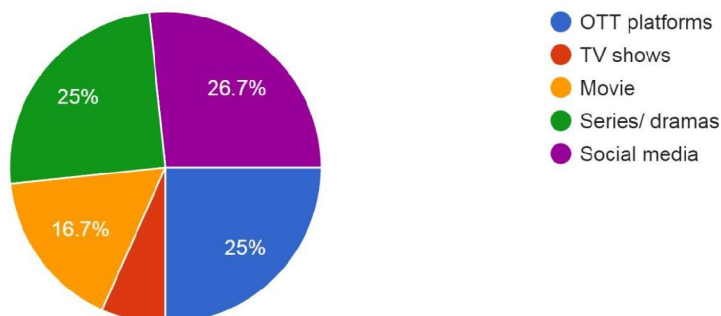
60 responses

30% people are not sure about it , 41.7% people agree with this statement , 20% strongly agree that the way entertainment industry represents any community affect how people treat them in real life and 8.3% disagree with this statement

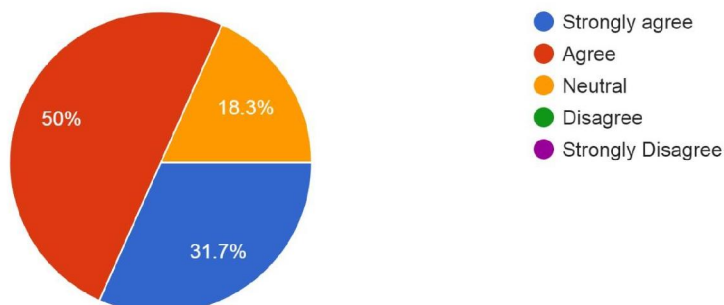### From which platform you get to know about LGBTQ+ community ?
60 responses

I believe it's one of the important question, the maximum number of respondents is 26.7% who get to know about lgbtq+ by social media. 25% from series/dramas and same number of people get to know from ott platform, OTT platform basically have movies, series, dramas but still I put it as a different category,16.7% by movies and remaining by tvshows .

Because of movie and series people get to know about the problems and issues LGBTQ+ community faced
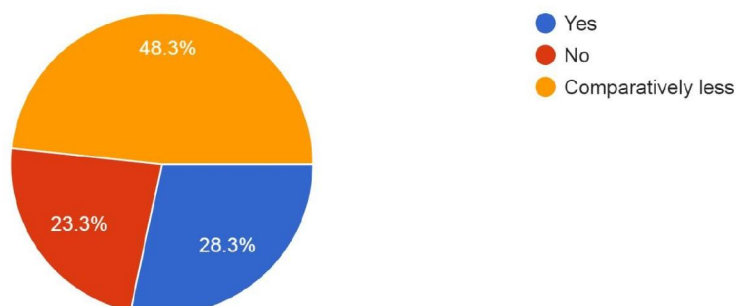60 responses

50%% of people agree with this statement and 31.7% of people strongly agree . And 18.3% neutral

In old Bollywood movies the gay character's were only for cheap comedy do you think it is still going on in Bollywood?
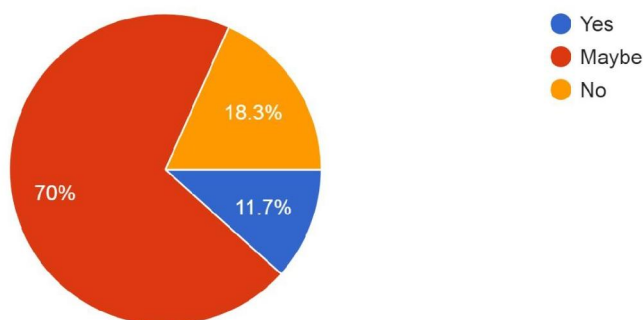60 responses

According to 48.3% of respondents Bollywood is going in a right way but 28.3% people said yes it's still going on somewhere in Bollywood. And lastly 23.3% people said No

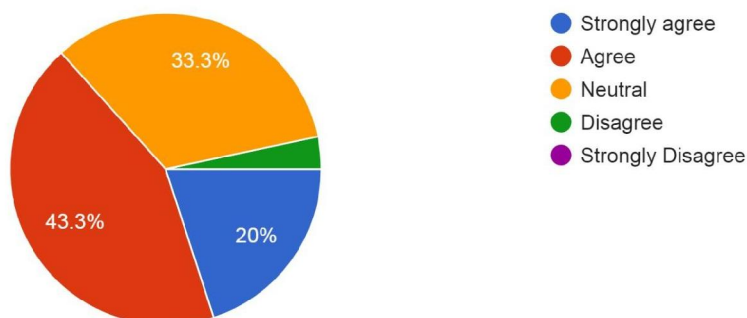Do you think entertainment industry portraying this community in a right way
60 responses

70% people are not sure about the industry portrayal, whereas 11.7% said yes and 18.3% people said no industries are not portraying this community in a right way.

Entertainment industry use to show gay characters as Horny and happy all the time
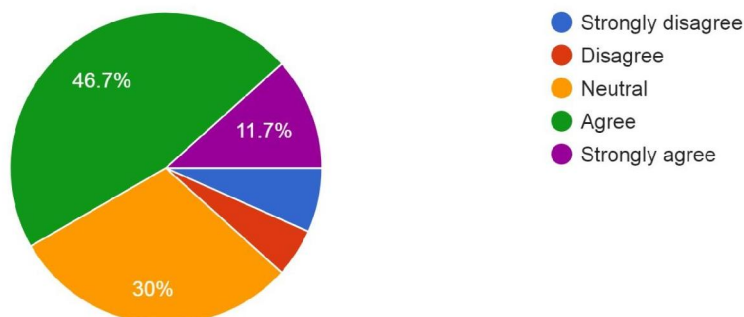60 responses

43.3%of the people agree with this statement, then 33.3% neutral and 20% strongly agree and remaining disagree

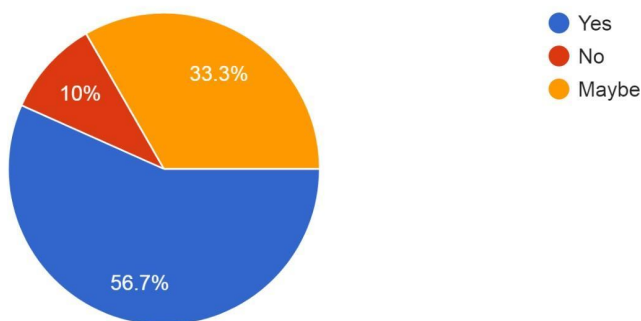The representation of LGBTQ community is getting better nowadays then early movies
60 responses

Around 46.7% of people are agreeing with the above statement .Whereas, 11.7% strongly agree and 30% are neutral. The remaining 6.7% strongly disagree and 5% disagree.

Is there still stereotypical Representation in movies and series ?

60 responses

My last question was is there still stereotypical representation in movies and series?. 56.7% of people said yes. 33% are not sure and lastly 10% said No .

V. CONCLUSION

The topic of the research was LGBTQ+ Representation in the Entertainment Industry. During the research we get to know a lot about entertainment industry and how they are representing lgbtq+ community not only that but I've also collected opinions from people that made a huge difference in my research. Entertainment industry is dominant by heterosexual movies / series and all . But as the time change more queer movies/ series even songs are coming out and loved by the audience. Movies have won many awards. But we still have a long way to go. Many people still don't know about LGBTQ+ community and some people know about them but still live in stereotypical mindset. .

At the ended I would like to conclude saying that the entertainment industry is getting better and huge day by day and people are accepting all the communities with happy face and kind heart.

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