

Anti-war Movies and Its Negative Effects on Society

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ABSTRACT

With war happening a few months before, people noticed anti-war's importance in society. Civil war has been an unrealistic event for many people today. Still, articles about anti-war and the adverse effects of war became commonly found on the internet with the war happening. The negative side of what war can bring to people is incurable. War destroys children, women, and uncorrelated life. The adverse effects include death, injury, sexual violence, malnutrition, illness, and disease. The importance of this paper is to explain the effects that war brings to different kinds of people. The method of literature review is applied in this research. Secondary data source mainly comes from journals, academic websites, online media etc. The movie of Jojo Rabbit, A Woman in Berlin, and Schindler's Lists are analyzed to have a deep understanding of anti-war researches. Jojo Rabbit gives a view of the children so that people can get a piece of profound knowledge on how children are affected. A Woman in Berlin mainly focuses on women. It shows the audience how the woman is being treated during the war. Schindler's Lists shows the innocent lives during the war by them being saved. The similarities between these three movies are that they are all based on World War II. This paper aims to express the thought of anti-war and to increase the importance of peace building in our society through this systematic review. The author expects that more people resonate with those victims experiencing civil war right now.

Keywords: *Anti-war, Movies, Peace and conflicts.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Peace and war are essential topics in our world. According to Owlcation, there are various causes for war, including territorial and resource rivalry, historical rivalries and grudges, and self-defense against an invader or a prospective attacker. Owlcation also said that during the high frequency of war, the countries want to defend their nation against foreign invasion or fight a revolution against an unjust government [1].

War does bring the winner side what they want, but it also affects both country's citizens in many ways, such as safety and mental health. According to Amrita Rathi, she says that both fighters and non-combatants suffer physical and mental consequences as a result of war. The material costs of war include death, injury, sexual assault, hunger, disease, and disability, while the mental consequences include post-traumatic stress disorder, despair, and anxiety [2]. Another negative impact is those innocent people that shouldn't get hurt and involved in this competition get involved. For example, people who don't belong to that country are studying or working there. The war on February 24, 2022, is an

example of this topic. Even though Russia said that its goal wasn't to get the citizens in Ukraine hurt or injured, some still did. This war made it essential to prevent war from happening because no one could ensure that people won't get damaged or harmed.

With this starting point, people started to make anti-war films. According to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, the first film, based on the 1929 novel by Erich Maria Remarque and the film directed by Lewis Milestone, released in 1930, All Quiet on the Western Front, talks about World War I [3]. According to Eric Posner's chart, the frequency of war started to decrease around 1974. The battle dramatically reduced in 2000. The movie that's talking about anti-war does decrease war from happening because it increases the encouragement of anti-war among groups of people. Still, it can't point out the negative side for people as words do, and some people might not fully understand the movie to notice the point that the director wanted to make [4]. To increase the importance of anti-war more articles about anti-war should be written. So, this article will include three movies based on World War II and how JoJo-Rabbit, A Woman in Berlin, and Schindler's

List inform anti-war. Jojo-Rabbit is a movie based on the end of World War II, shown from a children's view. From this, we can see how children are affected by war. For example, JoJo, the main character, losses his mom because she's hanged and killed by the Nazis. Based on the last few days of World War II, *A Woman in Berlin* talked about women's conditions. It shows how the woman is mistreated and suffering from physical and mental pain. *Schindler's List* is based on the start of World War II, and it talks about how Schindler, a businessman, saved innocent life by letting them operate his factory. *Schindler's List* shows us the protection that innocent people got during the war. These three movies reflect the importance of anti-war by showing what war has done to them.

2. JOJO RABBIT AND CHILDREN

2.1. Introduction To JoJo Rabbit

Jojo Rabbit is a movie that's famous for anti-war. It is a comedy movie that is one hour and forty-eight minutes long, released in November 2019. Directed and written by Taika Waititi, produced by Carthew Neal, Taika Waititi, and Chelsea Winstanley. This movie is based on World War II, and it is filmed from a children's perspective. In the film, a German boy named Jojo, the main character noticed that her mother hid a Jewish girl. Facing this situation, Jojo needs to confront the nationalism problem during World War II [5].

2.2. Anti-War In Jojo Rabbit

As we all know that Jojo rabbit is a movie with a theme of anti-war, this theme shows throughout the film. First, the quote directly indicates when Rosie, JoJo's mother, said that her nation is one of her favorites in the movie. It's the war that she despises. It's futile and dumb, and the sooner they reach a peaceful resolution, the better [6]. From this, we can see how Jojo's mom hates the war and that she wants the battle to stop. Being a child, Jojo won't have that much hate toward the war until his mother dies. Jojo's mother, who was killed by the Nazis, hanged her in the town square because Rosie is a part of the anti-Nazis. The death of his mother also leads to Jojo's hatred toward the Nazis, which also shows anti-war. We can see anti-war by Jojo's hostility toward the Nazis. With this hatred, we can see the anti-war thought in Jojo and also throughout the movie.

2.3. How Children Are Affected By War

Having war happen will affect a lot of people, but in this movie, children are the ones that get affected the most because Jojo Rabbit is a movie that's mainly focusing on the children. According to The National WWII Museum, Larry Decuers said that Jojo Rabbit did an excellent job of communicating the impact of the

Nazi Regime's ideological harming on German youth culture throughout the World War II period. The movie reminds people that children get the most negative effect during wars other than the country [7]. Looking at this generally from the film the start, it is evident that Jojo's pliable mind and the brains of German youngsters have little hope against the official propaganda machine. They have a slim chance of becoming anything except Nazis. Boys who were ten years old and above were required to join the Hitler Youth, a paramilitary group that supplanted the Scout movement in Germany [7]. We can imagine how much harm children will get from this war. Most of them got hurt, and some even died. Even though the children didn't die from the war, children shouldn't be used to fight the war. For example, a child had an explosive bind on his back, and he was told to hug an American. Also, a boy named Yorkki said that he's been promoted and gave him a gun to shoot people who look different from them. From these two examples, we can see that children are being used. From Jojo's perspective, his mother's death is also one effect that war has on children like Jojo. The effect is hatred toward the Nazis and the ability to seek right and wrong. Being a child means that their worldview is not formed yet, and by experienced, all the negative things like losing a family member or losing a friend will cause their worldview to be deformity. Lastly, all children might have post-traumatic stress disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) because of the war.

3. A WOMAN IN BERLIN AND WOMEN

3.1. Introduction To A Woman In Berlin

A Woman In Berlin is a movie based on women's condition during World War II. The origin of the movie is a memoir. The film is two hours and eleven minutes. The movie was released in the theaters on July 17, 2009. The film was written by Max Färberböck and Catharina Suchuckmann, directed by Max Färberböck, and produced by Günter Rohrbach. *A Woman In Berlin* was initially released in the German language. It talked about how women face difficulties, for example, surviving the Russian invasion [8]. This movie showed the audience how the woman is mistreated and gang-raped by the Russian soldier, which caused Anonyma, the main character, to seek shelter by dating a Soviet commander [9].

3.2. Anti-War In A Woman In Berlin

A Woman in Berlin is heavily filmed with the feeling of anti-war. It indirectly shows throughout the movie. Even though this movie doesn't show or have any quote that directly says about supporting anti-war, all the women represent the action of anti-war through their encounters. One of the quotes in *A Woman in Berlin* says, "And so the balance is maintained: well-fed

nations wallow in neurosis and excesses, while people plagued with suffering, as we are now, may rely on numbness and apathy to help see them through if not for that I'd be weeping morning, noon, and night" [10]. This quote informs people how depressed women are. Also, women are living in harsh conditions. Women are suffering during and after the war because of the Russian soldiers. We can see the anti-war side of this movie, which shows how harsh the condition is for a woman.

3.3 Tragedy Of Women In The Movie

War will affect a woman both mentally and physically. The movie, *A Woman in Berlin* showed both the effects. On the mental side, war can cause harm that can't be recovered even after the war. According to Roger Ebert, women lost their husbands after the battle and are camped out in the ruins of a bombed-out building. They are worn out, filthy, hungry, and terrified. They were all reared in the affluent middle class, but now they act like animals to seek shelter [11]. This action shows the audience that after a woman experiences the war, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is formed. They started to act like animals to seek food because they had experienced hunger from the war. They are afraid of sharing it again. Being raped is the central part of this movie and the main part that the audience feels about what war brings to women. Sexual abuse causes both mental and physical harm to a woman. The opposing side of being abused causes mental damage. If this situation is severed, it might cause PTSD for the woman about future relationships she will have. It can physically cause the woman's body to get hurt or pregnant [12].

4. SCHINDLER'S LISTS AND INNOCENT LIVES

4.1. Introduction To Schindler's Lists

Schindler's Lists is a historical movie about a businessman saving Jewish workers during World War II. In 1939, a businessman named Oskar Schindler arrived in Krakow, eager to profit from World War II, which had just begun. He joined the Nazi party for political purposes and then hired Jewish workers. When the SS started to find Jews in Krakow, Schindler arranged for his Jewish workers for protection so that his business could keep running but then noticed that he was saving innocent lives. The movie is three hours and fifteen minutes long. It was written by Steven Spielberg and produced by Branko Lustig, Gerald R. Molen, and Steven Spielberg. The movie was first released in the theater on December 15, 1993. The film heavily talked about innocent lives during the war even though they aren't the main characters [15].

4.2. Anti-War In Schindler's Lists

The movie *Schindler's Lists* mainly shows anti-war through the quotes. For example, the word that is said by Oskar Schindler in the film, "Power is when we have every justification to kill, and we don't" [16]. This quote expresses Oskar Schindler's feeling of anti-war. Everyone chooses their own life, whether they die or live. War shouldn't happen because it kills people and deprives people of human rights. Also, the quote that Oskar Schindler said about choosing to be a man or a murderer expresses the action of anti-war. The section says, "I know you have received orders from our commandant, which he has received from his superiors, to dispose of the population of this camp. Now would be the time to do it. Here they are; they're all here. This is your opportunity. Or, you could leave, and return to your families as men instead of murderers [16]. In this quote, Schindler gave the Nazis a chance to choose to be good. War not only lets people see the part of having or not having human rights but also obeying or being righteous. Through this movie, we can not only see anti-war from the quote but also see the part of being a human. Determine right or wrong. Even after the war, Schindler thinks he could have done more and saved more lives [16]. Schindler's willingness of saving more life shows the audience that every life matters and we shouldn't let war have negative impacts on ordinary people.

4.3. Post-war Effect On Innocent People

We can see two kinds of innocent people affected by the war in this movie. One type is the people who got saved by Oskar Schindler, and the other type is the ones that got killed during the war. According to Joanna Di Mattia, the true story of *Schindler's Lists* has saved about 1,200 Jews [17]. People surviving the war will remember every detail of mistreatment during the war. Rob Schmitz interviewed a survivor of World War II. The survivor said that people were immediately killed after they had no energy. People were killed by throwing through the electric fence, and some tried to commit suicide inside the camp [18]. The person who survived will never forget how they were treated during the war. The others that are killed lose their right to choose their own life. Even though they are all innocent people, they still can't change the fact of being killed or not.

5. CONCLUSION

People should write about war and, most importantly, the negative side of the fighting because it will inform people about the harmful thing that war brings to humans. For example, a family fighting for the army or experiencing war gets separated. According to Marion Hart, South Sudan lost thousands of children

during the civil war. Some came back with their family after the war, and some died from hunger. The lucky ones who got back together with their family still have problems because of the war. Children who get lost in the war will abandon their families because they think they've left them. For the soldiers that have sacrificed during the war, their families won't be any better. According to The National WWII Museum, about 60 million people died in World War II, including approximately 15 million soldiers and 45 million civilians. These people died because of premediated genocide, massacres, mass bombings, disease, and famine. With 15 million soldiers dying, there will be 15 million families losing their son, father, or husband. War will also cause mental and physical problems. Having more people writing about the war will decrease the change of war happening. With war happening before, people see the importance of peace. As global citizens, we need to learn from the scarification of those who died in the war. We need to prevent war from happening in the future.

In this paper, literature films are used to make weight on showing peace and avoiding civil war. *Jojo Rabbit*, *A Woman in Berlin*, and *Schindler's Lists* all showed the theme of anti-war during the period of World War II. *Jojo Rabbit* shows anti-war from children's perspective and children's feelings. *A Woman in Berlin* shows anti-war from how women are treated. *Schindler's Lists* shows anti-war from the perspective of innocent people saved from Schindler. All three movies can influence people through the plot in the film. It can make people resonate about what children, women, and innocent lives have experienced during the war. This research aims to increase knowledge of the adverse effects of war.

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