

## **UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)**

Wonder girls: Undercurrents of resistance in the representation of teenage girls in 1980s American cinema
Wilkinson, M.C.
Link to publication
Citation for published version (APA): Wilkinson, M. C. (2013). Wonder girls: Undercurrents of resistance in the representation of teenage girls in 1980s American cinema.
General rights It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

UvA-DARE is a service provided by the library of the University of Amsterdam (http://dare.uva.nl)

Download date: 20 Oct 2019

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

All films are the products of rich collaborations, and these are often laid out for the viewers in rolling closing credits, set to uplifting pop music. This project, likewise, would not have come about were it not for the input, inspiration and tremendous support provided by a great many people in my life. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them properly (and would like to invite you to please imagine these 'credits' rolling upwards along the page, accompanied by upbeat, non-diegetic 1980s pop songs).

First and foremost, this PhD project would not have been completed without the wonderful support of my two 'promotors', Prof. Patricia Pisters and Dr. Jaap Kooijman. Both consistently motivated and guided me throughout my research and writing, and always knew just what to say to keep me inspired, to get me thinking about my findings in new and interesting ways, and to keep my work moving forward. I am eternally grateful to them both, and feel very lucky to have them, both as colleagues and as mentors. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of my defence committee once more, Dr. Murat Aydemir, Dr. Sandra Ponzanesi, Prof. Pamela Pattynama, Prof. Vinzenz Hediger and Prof. Ginette Vincendeau, for taking part in the ceremony, and the Amsterdam School of Cultural Analysis (especially Eloe Kingma and Jantine van Gogh) for offering me the opportunity to research this project on one of their scholarships in the first place, and for helping me wherever possible along the way.

Throughout my studies in the UK, I had the great honour of being taught by some amazing lecturers and professors, who have inspired me in more ways than they'll ever know; especially Dr. Catherine Grant, Dr. Andrew Klevan and Prof. Murray Smith at the film studies department in Canterbury, Kent, and Dr. Victor Perkins, Prof. Richard Dyer and Prof. Ginette Vincendeau at the University of Warwick. The many warm cups of tea and conversation that I shared with Ginette, particularly, not only fuelled my passion for writing, for film studies and cultural criticism in general, but also inspired me to pursue an academic career, in the hope I might one day become more like her. I also want to thank Prof. Rosi Braidotti at the University of Utrecht for all her wonderful seminars on feminist thought, and for her many heartening 'calls to arms'. I can only aspire to do for my students what these immensely knowledgeable, hugely inspirational and passionate teachers have done for me.

I next want to thank my colleagues, my friends and family for all the support they have given me. It has been such a joy to work at the department of Media Studies for the past nine years (a dream come true, really), not only because of the job that I get to do there, and

the great students I get to share my passions with, but also because of my colleagues, who have become almost like a second family to me. Jeroen, Jan, Markus, Kaouthar, Wim, Charles, Gerwin, Alexandra, Wanda, Marijke, Catherine, Maarten, Laura C, Willem, Marie-Aude, Dymph, Miriam, to name but a few of them at UvA, and Rebecca Lindner and Lotte Tavecchio at Amsterdam University College; thank you so much for all your support and all your kindness. Some other colleagues have become some of my closest friends outside work as well. I don't think I would have been able to complete this project were it not for their amazing, uplifting, loyal and enriching friendships, and our many joyous, exciting and fruitful exchanges. I really don't know where I'd be without them. Thank you, thank you, for being a part of it all; Leonie, Daisy (thanks again, Dais, for the tip about the breasts and the buttocks!), David Duindam, Emiel, Sebastian, Hanna, Jenni, Eva, Nina, and also Ellen, David Nieborg, Astrid, Hester, Pepita, Thijs, Laura S and René. And thank you as well to my other dearest friends, Lara, Reinoud, Amelie, Aloy, Sarah B and Sarah K in Amsterdam, Neel in India, Tom in Paris, Mohammad in Zurich and Daphne and Alia in LA, for always managing to put everything back into perspective for me, and for sharing in the films and giggles.

Most of all, I want to thank my two besties, Andrea and Laure (who have also graciously taken on the role of 'paranimf' in my ceremony), for everything they have done for me, for all we have shared, and for generally just being the two most marvellous friends a girl could ever ask for, and my family, especially my incredible parents Manja en Tony (how did I get so lucky?), my brilliant brother Jonne and Hanna, and my amazing sister Sara (and Finne, Jag, Ramon and Anna) who all inspire, love and support me in everything I do. I could not have done this without you; words are simply not enough. Thank you, thank you, for everything. I dedicate this thesis to you.