

CALL FOR PAPERS

“Marriage and Family Myths in Film and Television”

An area of multiple panels for the *Film & History* Conference on “Film and Myth”

September 26-30, 2012

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

www.filmandhistory.org

Deadline: June 1, 2012

Representations of marriage and family in film and television are central to our shared cultural conceptions of these institutions. In every era, ideals are formed around marriage and family that are shaped just as much through presence (literal representations) as they are through absence (tales of longing for these ideals). How do representations of marriage and family shift in order to accommodate changing cultural conditions? How are representations of marriage and family understood by critics and audiences as mythology?

This area, comprising multiple panels, will address the operations of mythology in moving image representations of marriage and family throughout historical and cultural changes. Papers that explore how such myths are played out in national contexts, outside of US culture, are especially welcome. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

Ethnic Family Sitcoms in Early Television

Backlash: Single Parent Families and Postfeminism in Film and Television

Classical Hollywood Comedies of Remarriage

The “Family Hour”: Broadcast Policies and Family Programming

Generation Gap: The Impact of the Counterculture on Representations of Family

Family Nostalgia: 1950s Ideals in Contemporary Film and Television (*Far From Heaven*, *Pleasantville*, *Mad Men*)

The Family in Wartime

Gender Trouble: Myths of Traditional Masculinity and Femininity

The “Family” Film: Disney and the General Audience Market

Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) are also welcome, but they must include an abstract and contact information, including an e-mail address, for each presenter. Please e-mail your 200-word proposal by June 1, 2012:

Caryn Murphy

Area Chair, 2012 *Film & History* Conference

“Marriage and Family Myths in Film and Television”

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