

Image of lawyers in movies – Abstract

This thesis focuses on selected legal (revolving around a legal issue or procedure) and lawyer (includes a well-established character who is a member of the legal profession) movies, that grabbed my attention and were interesting enough for me to write a short analysis of.

The aim of this paper is to present these movies to the reader in two stages. First in the table, that contains their lucid list marking the branch of law which they relate to, brief summary of their plot, how realistic they are, quality assessment and country of origin. This is supposed to be used during selection of a movie to watch, so I strive to remain as objective as possible in the quality assessment and offer a summary, that does not diminish the viewing experience.

Second in the analysis, that is focused on the legal side of the story and the characters of presented lawyers, who are being evaluated upon the logic and morality of their actions as well as how plausible their character is and other features. I deliberately omit storylines that are not essential to understanding the story as a whole and have little relevance to the legal side of it.

In the third chapter I divide the movies in two categories: lawyer movies and legal movies, compare them together and try to present a more complex analysis of their characters and topics. Furthermore, I examine the potential influence of those movies on real relationships between lawyers and their clients and finally the potential influence on legal consciousness.

This diploma thesis is formally divided into three chapters, even though in actuality there are only two. I kept list of movies in its own chapter in hopes of ensuring a better reading experience.

In the introduction, I explain why I chose this subject matter and what was my initial concept. Then I go into the actual composition of it, how I approach each part and explain certain used terms. In the conclusion, I first explain the changes to the initial concept and then briefly explain how my basic image of a typical lawyer in a movie compares to the actual characters presented in the movies I chose.