Legally Blonde

Elle Woods;

A feminist in a pink dress?
What’s the story?

**Elle Woods**

- Superficial
- Popular
- Blonde

Get’s **dumped** by her boyfriend who wants a **serious** girlfriend
What’s the story?

• So, she applies to Harvard Law School
• Somehow, she gets in!
• Her ex, Warner, has a new girlfriend.
• After meeting Emmett, Elle realises she has to prove herself.
What’s the story?

• She is awarded a top Court Case

• She then finds out it was only because her mentor, Callaghan, found her attractive and he sexually harasses her.

• But, through her determination and honesty, she wins the case.
What’s the story?

• In the end, she marries Emmett

• She helps many friends along the way

• And proves that blondes can be intelligent.
Culture defined by stereotypes

• Elle has a clear stereotype

• She manages to **disprove** it...

• ...whilst retaining her ‘look’.
Stereotypes ➔ Prejudice

• Stereotypes often play a **big role** in prejudice

• **Historically**, America has a big issue with prejudice
  ➢ **Racism**

• Even **today**, there are problems.

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Ok we pick a worthless nigger over a full blooded american what the hell has our world come its called the white house for a reason
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRADITIONAL FEMINISM</th>
<th>ELLE’S FEMINISM</th>
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<td>About finding equality with men by rejecting ‘femininity’. Proving that women can do exactly the same things as men.</td>
<td>Using skills that are viewed as ‘feminine’ to her advantage and embracing her ‘femininity. Accepts that men and women are different but equal in their own right.</td>
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How does the film show this?

- Elle solves a case that **no man can**, because of her **knowledge** of **hair care**.

- Warner and Callaghan both are portrayed as **disloyal** and only really interested in sex.
• In fact, Elle only gets into Harvard because of her **looks**, as it is a group of men who decide.
Strong female characters

• Paulette proves she doesn’t need a man, with Elle’s help.

• Elle’s professor is the one who convinces Elle to carry on and fight.
• Elle proves that she doesn’t need a man, and then marries one...

• However, in the musical version, she reverses the gender roles and proposes to Emmett.

• Despite this, she still proves that you can defy stereotypes and be true to yourself.
THE AMERICAN DREAM — anything is possible