

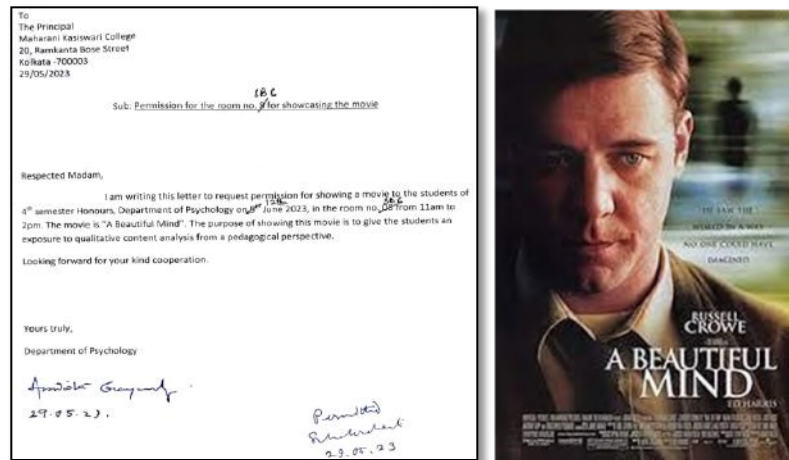
Movie screening: “A Beautiful Mind”

Date: 12.06.2023

Time: 11:00 – 2:00

Venue: Room No. SB6, Science Building, Maharani Kasiswari College

Notice



The Department of Psychology, Maharani Kasiswari College, organized a movie screening of “*A Beautiful Mind*” (2001) directed by Ron Howard on 12th June, 2023 from 11 am to 2 pm, for the Psychology Honours students of Semester 4 studying under the CBCS system. The intent of the screening was to give the students an opportunity to understand the experiences of a person living with schizophrenia. The film is a biographical drama about the mathematician John Nash, a Nobel Laureate in Economics, who also has schizophrenia.


In order to encourage critical thinking and creative writing, the students participated in qualitative content analysis where the students reflected upon their experience and understanding as a result of watching the movie.

Total number of participants: **30 students**.

The event was facilitated by departmental faculties **Anwista Ganguly** and **Kaustav Manna**.



Write ups prepared by the Departmental Students:



CONTENT ANALYSIS OF

A BEAUTIFUL MIND

By the students of Semester 4,
Maharaja Kasiwari College
Parishi Akora
Ajibul Majumdar,
Isha Gupta
Sanchit Das,
Chayanka Das.

LEARNING FROM THE MOVIE :

The movie 'A Beautiful Mind' is a biographical drama based on the life of mathematician John Nash. It offers several valuable lessons and insights. Here are some key takeaways:

- **Self-Reflection and Self-Awareness:** The movie illustrates the importance of self-reflection and self-awareness in overcoming personal challenges. Nash learns to distinguish between reality and his delusions by critically examining his own thoughts and experiences with the help of a loved one.
- **Stigma and Acceptance:** 'A Beautiful Mind' highlights the stigma surrounding mental illness. Nash initially struggles with denial and secrecy, fearing the repercussions of disclosing his condition. However, the movie also emphasizes the importance of acceptance and support from loved ones, which ultimately helps Nash in his recovery.
- **Human Connections:** The film upholds the significance of human connections and relationships. Nash's wife, Alicia, stands by his side throughout his struggles and supports him emotionally. The importance of social support, love, and understanding is a central theme, demonstrating how meaningful connections can aid in one's recovery.
- **Perseverance and Resilience:** Nash's journey clearly demonstrated the power of perseverance and resilience. Despite facing significant challenges, including delusions and hallucinations, Nash continued to pursue his passion for mathematics. He gradually learns to manage his symptoms as well.
- **Different Forms of Intelligence:** 'A Beautiful Mind' challenges the notion of intelligence and highlights that it comes in various forms.
- **Mental Illness and Identity:** The film also dwells into the impact of mental illness on one's sense of self. It highlights the challenges individuals face in reconciling their true identity with the symptoms and stigma associated with the condition one is dealing with.
- **Perception and Reality:** 'A Beautiful Mind' explores the blurred boundaries between perception and reality in the context of schizophrenia. It

raises questions about how our perceptions shape our understanding of the world and challenges the notion of an objective reality.

- **Genius and Mental Illness:** The film sheds light on the relationship between being a genius and mental illness. John Nash, despite his exceptional mathematical abilities, suffered from schizophrenia. The movie emphasizes that mental illness does not negate a person's intellectual capabilities.
- **Delusions and Cognitive Distortions:** The movie sheds light on the nature of delusions and cognitive distortions experienced by individuals with schizophrenia. It offers insight into how these distortions can influence thoughts, emotions, and behavior, leading to altered perceptions of oneself and others.
- **Triumph of the Human Spirit:** Ultimately, the film is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the capacity for resilience and growth. It showcases John Nash's ability to overcome his struggles, reclaim his life, and make significant contributions despite his mental health challenges.

It is important to note that while the movie provides valuable insights, it is a dramatized adaptation and may not fully capture the complexities of John Nash's life or the experiences of individuals with schizophrenia.

MESSAGE FROM THE MOVIE :

1. **Symptoms of schizophrenia:** The film provides a nuanced portrayal of the symptoms of schizophrenia. It depicts Nash experiencing auditory and visual hallucinations, primarily in the form of imagined individuals and conspiracy theories. It also highlights the presence of delusions, as Nash becomes convinced that he is working as a codebreaker for the government. By showcasing these symptoms, the movie sheds light on the complex nature of schizophrenia and its impact on one's perception of reality.
2. **Reality distortion and subjective experiences:** 'A Beautiful Mind' explores the concept of reality distortion and subjective experiences associated with mental illness. Through Nash's perspective, the film shows how his delusions and hallucinations become an integral part of his daily life. It demonstrates the challenges of distinguishing between what is real and what is

CONTENT ANALYSIS

ON

FILM - 'A Beautiful Mind'

By - **Indira Nag Chowdhury Sukalpa Pal**
Purnasha Nandi Puja
Bhattacharjee Mouli Mitra

The film "A Beautiful mind" being a human drama is inspired by the events in the life of John Forbes Nash and is part based on biography. It tells the story of genius mathematician John Nash, who made a break through in famous game theory in 1940. He is also known for winning the Nobel Prize in Economics for developing Nash Equilibrium Theory. The content of the film is based on personal experience of mental illness which gave the viewers a different perspective on this disorder.

The protagonist of the film Jon Nash is seen as a mathematician, who is recognized for his noble prize winning work on Economics. In his early life he is introduced as a career oriented individual who believed that the mind gets constricted by getting education from attending scheduled classes and reading prescribed books, which prevented him from attending his scheduled university classes and he was not concerned about turning in his class assignments. He was seen most of the time in his hostel room, solving equations and formulas. He was determined to publish his own original ideas. Often he was seen being violent whenever he faced any inconvenience or failure. His symptoms of Schizophrenia heightened during this time.

When he was got established in career and life it was seen that he only looked forward to globally establish his theory. The government even sought help from his as he was recognized as the best code breaker. He preferred to stay alone and often described himself as a "lone wolf" but when one of his students asked him out, he started developing affection for her and readily wooed her. Later in his life while he was navigating the normal course of life, he was unfortunately diagnosed with Paranoid Schizophrenia. He started experiencing a series of split from the reality and paranoia, inspite of facing all the hardships of living with a mental illness and he was seen struggling with personal life and career, at the end he achieved the goal of his life. The film portrayed the difficulty that schizophrenic faces in his daily life but it also seen that John Nash is able overcome the chronic illness not only with the help of medication and therapy but also the emotional and moral support and love he received from his wife and friends. He was able to live more or less a productive and

A beautiful mind

Content analysis

By

Shaheen Parveen

Dwiparna Sengupta

Chaarhu Bhattacharyya

The nightmare of schizophrenia is not knowing what's true. Imagine if you had learned that the people and the places most important to you were not gone, not dead, but worse, never been. What kind of hell would that be!

A Beautiful Mind is a 2001 American biographical drama film directed by Ron Howard. Written by Akiva Goldsman, its screenplay was inspired by Sylvia Nasar's 1998 biography of the mathematician John Nash, a Nobel Laureate in Economics. It tells the story of a man whose mind was of enormous service to humanity while at the same time betrayed him with frightening delusions. The movie brings the character to life by sidestepping sensationalism and building with small behavioural details. He shows a man who descends into madness and then, unexpectedly, regains the ability to function in the academic world. Nash has been compared to Newton, Mendel and Darwin, but was also for many years just a man muttering to himself in the corner. It is a visual

Shreya Saha

Introduction

The Nobel Biz winner John Forbes Nash Jr. was the main character of the story or film - A Beautiful mind."

Directed by Ron Howard, A Beautiful Mind (2002) American biographical drama film. It is the true story of genius John Forbes Nash, Jr. who revolutionized mathematics and struggle with mental illness. The movie depicts Nash's journey through life with schizophrenia. Nash displays many characteristics symptoms of schizophrenia - hallucination, delusion, fear of persecution, lack of interpersonal relationships.