

“By George, ” a screenplay by Bradley Ian Berger

“By George” is a sophisticated social commentary wrapped with a screwball romantic comedy taking place over two weeks. It is as if you were giving medicine to a child and are putting the medicine in ice cream.

There are two main social issues: men and women and the other is African-Americans and white people. The problem of the biological clock is part of the relationship issue between men and women. I try to be subtle with this issue and have George talk about it in his lectures to groups and college students as well as his television interviews. By using the biological clock issue I show that women have much more power than they realize; there are biological as well as other conflicts between men and women.

The racial conflict is subtle but visual. Yes, there are bi-racial love stories, but I haven't seen any in an edgy, integrated movie. Except for the workplace America, in my mind, there are still basically two societies: black and white. This is what the Kerner report said in 1968 and most of us still live that way. There are many scenes in a club that are integrated. Whereas the club patrons begin with a dominance of white people as the majority in the club, by the last bar scene, the majority of people in the club are black. This to me is integration and racial intermingling. The visuals of a church and restaurant show white people as the minority having to fit into a black environment. The friendship of Sean, George and Kevin is a Black white friendship. I want to make people think and the movie to start discussions.

The relationship of Halle and George is a device for the racial message. As you know, the great thing about the old screwball romantic comedies is that they are not that deep and everything doesn't have a reason. One of my favorite movies is “My Man Godfrey,” a screwball romantic comedy that carries a strong message about the depression and the dichotomy of the rich and poor. However, it is a love story that brings out the drama of social contemporary issues.

I have written two endings. They both take place seven years after the two weeks. Try them both.

Perhaps I have missed the boat, but I do believe that in light of all that has happened and is happening in the political scene the movie is “right on” for these times.