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Gender statistics at the Swedish Film Institute

Background

The current [Swedish Film Agreement](#) valid for 2013-2015 contains an equality directive stating that the number of projects receiving advance production funding from the Swedish Film Institute shall be divided equally between women and men in the key positions director, screenwriter and producer. The target applies separately to each of the film categories feature film, film for children and young people, and short and documentary film. In the previous Film Agreement ending in 2012 the corresponding directive stated that the proportion of men and women in the key positions should be at least 40 percent each.

In accordance with the Film Agreement the Swedish Film Institute produces extensive statistics on men and women in Swedish film. This also enables us to analyze and evaluate our own equality initiatives, as well as allowing us to respond to frequent requests from the Ministry of Culture, the film industry and journalists.

Procedure

We calculate shares of women involved separately per film and per positions (director, screenwriter and producer). A film with one female director, two male screenwriters, and one female and one male producer hence get 100 %, 0 % and 50 % respectively as share of women participation. With these figures as a base we can calculate an average for a selection of films, for example all films receiving funding a specific year. We do this separately for feature length fiction, feature length documentary, short fiction and short documentary.

The Film Agreement also stipulates that we should present the average funding amounts for films solely or mostly by women and solely or mostly by men. This is done by calculating an average of the female participation for the three positions per film. Films with an average of female participation of 60 % or more are categorized as “by women” and films with an average of 40 % or less as “by men”. Films with an average between 40 % and 60 % are categorized as “by both women and men”. Hence, in this case we use three categories.

Gender categorizations of directors/screenwriters/producers are done when a film apply for funding the Swedish Film Institute. The Swedish Film Database is used as a source for gender categorizations for films done without funding.

Publication of gender statistics

The gender statistics are published in the annual [Facts & Figures](#). More extensive statistics can be found on the website of the [Swedish Film Institute](#). There are also special studies devoted to this issue published.