**Reel Bad Arabs – Seeing the Stereotypes**

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| **Lesson Focus** | Uncovering stereotypes of Arabs that are present in popular movies. |
| **Recommended Age Group** | 9h -12th grade |
| **Time Suggested** | 2-3 class periods |
| **Materials needed** | Access to the internet to stream the film; projector to show the film; whiteboard or blackboard on which to write |
| **Objectives** | By the end of this lesson, students:1. Understand how repeated images become stereotypes
2. Understand and recognize common stereotypes of Arabs in American films
3. Understand the impact of stereotypes on perceptions of groups
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| **Main Learning Activities** | The teacher can introduce the film *Reel Bad Arabs* by asking students to draw a picture of an Arab and describe an Arab using five adjectives. They should also write below this what they think is the source of their information on Arabs. Then each student presents her/his drawing to the class and shares what they wrote. The teacher can also ask how many students have seen the Disney film *Aladdin* and then ask students to describe the Arabs presented in this film. After this introduction, which could take anywhere from 20 minutes to a full class period, the film can be presented. It is 50 minutes in length and can be started in one class period and completed in the next (or assigned as homework as it is available online).  |
| **Closure** | As a follow-up to the film, students can be asked to come up with other stereotypes in the movies, or be shown a “caricature of an American by a European artist” (drawn by the teacher, including stereotypes such as fat and wearing shorts and loud, etc.—get creative!) and asked to explain what happens when you make assumptions about a whole group of people based on things you see in the movies. |