Vito Russo test

**Purpose:** The Vito Russo test checks how often films depict lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex, trans or queer (LGBTIQ+) people, and the way in which they do so. It covers three categories: representation, complexity and relevance.

**Test a film:** Take a film you are making at the moment or one you are interested in and apply the test. The film only ‘passes’ the test if you answer yes to all the questions below.

**Title of film:** ___________________________________________

**Criterion 1: Representation**

Does the film include at least one character who is recognisably lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex, trans or queer?  

YES  NO

**Criterion 2: Complexity**

Is this character primarily defined in terms of their sexuality or gender identity? Is the character just as complex as non-queer characters in the film?  

YES  NO

**Criterion 3: Relevance**

Is the character of central importance to the film’s plot? Would the main strand of the plot be severely impacted if the character were not present?  

YES  NO

**Result**

Does the film improve public and media representations and perceptions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex, trans and/or queer people?  

YES  NO