

8 CRITICAL ANALYSIS:

In the “*Chasing Circles*” sequence images of revolving circles and movement have been used to give the idea of movement and time progression - life continuing in its routine cycles – and these images have been inter cut with the recurring image of a hamster running aimlessly on its wheel. The piece provokes the viewer to analyse one’s own life and what the point of it is. Yes, we are all constantly running around from point A to point B worrying about the time, but at the end of the day what makes this running around so different to that of the hamsters?

Different shots of different people from all walks of life, for example from students entering a lecture theatre to people walking down High Street, therefore the sequence has attempted to represent the human race regardless of class and race.

“*Chasing Circles*” is an example of the film theory of realism. This is obvious in the fact that the characters were left in their physical surrounding with minimal distortion from the director and film maker. According to Fourie the representation of reality results in “heightening the viewers consciousness of the world around them (Fourie, 197). The juxtaposition between the image of the hamster and the different shots of people going about their daily routines adds something to the realism. Therefore the piece has introduced a structure, that of the constant image of the hamster running, paralleled with the shots of the people rushing about which are in a sense chaotic. In this way the piece talks to its audience and provokes thought about the meaning of life and if there is a meaning to all these cycles. The effects added during editing such as the image of the hamster cage and wheel over the runner on the treadmill help to build the idea of the rat race of life.

REFERENCES:

Fourie, P.J. 2001. “Film Theories”. In Media Studies. Juta: Cape Town.