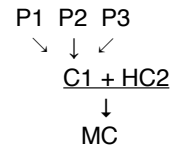


Ex. 8M (d)
p. 232

**This response is extensive - taking into consideration different ways that you could analyze the argument. You're expected to have some of the answers, not necessarily all of them, to do well. Answers may vary.*

- P1: Male nudity is too private
- P2: Male nudity is less attractive than female nudity
- P3: Male nudity is somewhat threatening
- C1: Audiences don't want to see male nudity, +
- HC2: Audience approval influences directors' discretions
- MC: Directors avoid showing any male nudity



The diagram is fairly straight forward/explicit. If you're going to find any hidden meanings, then it has to be something in line with HC2. None of the other premises have hidden implications.

If you didn't add HC2, and the rest of your structure is the same, you still have a strong (A-level) diagram in this case.

Where you can write less, do so.

While P1, P2, and P3 are relevant to the C1, none are acceptable.

P1: That "male nudity is too private" isn't clear. What is meant by *too private*? Is it more private than female nudity? There seems to be an implicit idea in the argument that males bodies might be more private than females. The burden of proof is on the author to provide more information about what/how a male body is "too private."

P2: That "male nudity is less attractive" is questionable on empirical grounds. There are people who do find male nudity attractive. Finding just one person who finds males attractive, and are more attracted to males than females, puts this premise in question. You could also pose problems with the concept of "attraction." By what criteria is the author judging attraction?

P3: Like P1, this premise isn't clear. We have no idea what "somewhat threatening" means. What part of male nudity is threatening? Who finds it threatening? Etc.

The C1, while relevant to the MC, is not acceptable. It's an assumption that is in no way obvious to a universal audience. Again, all you need is one person to disagree with this premise to problematize its acceptability.

The arguer derives C1 from P1 to P3. So, it can also be deemed unacceptable because it's based on three problematic reasons. Though this second way of rejecting C1 isn't as strong as recognizing that it's a bad assumption, even without looking at its supporting rationale in this case.

HC2 seems reasonable enough to accept based on common knowledge - how the masses respond to films could influence decisions about film making, at least to some degree. It's also relevant to its MC.

The MC is not adequately supported at all. We cannot deem an argument that rests on four problematic premises a strong one. The author seems to be making some generalizations about what we think about male nudity as a society. To improve the argument, the arguer could:

- be less universal in his/her declarations. It's easy to find fault with a premise if you can find one exception to the rule. For example, he could state that "Many people find male nudity less attractive." He/she would still need to provide some numbers for us to believe that this is indeed the case, but at least it's more plausible than "everyone finds male nudity less attractive."

- the arguer could also provide more evidence for Directors making the choice to avoid male nudity beyond audience approval (C1 + HC2). Are there other reasons why there's less male nudity than female nudity in film?