# CARL'S JR. AD ANALYSIS

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### PARIS HILTON CARL'S JR. COMMERCIAL 2005



#### VIDEO BREAKDOWN

Who: Paris Hilton

What: Carl's Jr. Spicy BBQ Burger

When: 2005

• Where: A garage

Why: Marketing ploy to sell more burgers

- Thesis: Fast Food restaurant, Carl's Jr., exploits women in their "Spicy BBQ Burger" (2005) commercial in order to persuade their male consumers to buy more burgers.
  - Target Audience: Men.
    - Women are less likely to be convinced by sexual visuals performed by other women.
    - Men are more likely to be convinced by female involvement.
  - Visual Queues
    - Attractive woman- scantily clad
    - Expensive car
    - Male pornographic fantasy
    - Slow motion emphasizes sexual movements

#### VISUAL BREAKDOWN

- Actress: Paris Hilton
  - Sex-tape scandal makes her immediately recognizable as a sex symbol
- Appearance
  - Strappy, scantily clad bikini
  - Black strappy heels
  - Fur shawl
- Aspects that draw in the audience
  - Male pornographic fantasy
    - · Car wash
  - Male interests
    - Expensive cars

Conclusion: The burger is an after thought and the situation depicted in the commercial lacks relevance in regard to the product being sold.

#### THE AFTERMATH

- Same Concept, Different Company...
  - Newer commercials for the company that utilize the same sexist material are not as successful in selling their products.
  - Hilton's commercial, however, was very successful and was responsible for the Carl's Jr. website crash.

#### **Ameritest Consumer Panel Results:**

- 43% plan to visit Carl's Jr.
- 52% found the commercial offensive
  - 51% found it irritating/annoying
  - 32% "felt worse" about the chain
- Though newer commercials share the same concept as previously released advertisement for Carl's
  Jr., the objectification of women as a marketing tool is no longer acceptable due to a shift in social
  norms.
  - As time progressed, exploitation became more controversial and less accepted.
    - · Feminist movement

## WHO'S HUNGRY?