

Representation
in
'Trainspotting'

Young people

- Here young people are shown to be avoiding the action of the bar fight, and rather be the bystanders while everyone else takes the pain.
- This is a common occurrence throughout the film, such as when they avoid taking responsibility for the baby's death, and just stare at it, or when Renton and sick boy shoot the dog from a far so they couldn't take any blame.



Old people

- Old people in this film tend to take care of the younger people, and take responsibility for actions as we see here, Renton's parents taking care of him after he passed out from drug abuse.
- Other examples include when Spud brings his dirty sheets down, and the parents insist on cleaning it for him, or when Diane's parents had made breakfast for Renton the morning after.



Working-class people

- Here we see Renton in his new life, embracing the working-class life. He isn't able to live in a nice place, and lives off pot noodles, but we see he is still happy and content with his life for now.
- Other examples are at the start of movie when we see Renton and his friends in this run-down building, little to no money, but still happy. Another example is when we see Diane's family in a cramped space, living with what they have.



Scottish people

- Scottish people in this film are represented to be ashamed of who they are.
- We see here with Renton and his friends exclaiming how it's terrible to be Scottish, and how they're the lowest of the low.
- Despite Scotland having magnificent landscapes, they were too depressed by their Scottish nationality to even explore the horizon.



Addicts

- We see here, Renton and the mother of the now dead baby trying to fix this tragic problem with drugs, which is ironic as it is what caused this to begin with.
- Addicts in this film see drugs as an easy way out of any problem, but also find it incredibly hard to quit drugs, as we can clearly see when Renton says he is done, then goes for another one, then struggles through his recovery, before testing a new drug once again.



Men

- Men in this movie have singular and clear goals, to have a fun time, and live in the moment without thinking of the future.
- We see this here when Spud and Tommy sit together surrounded by alcohol talking about how they want women, and solely focused on that.
- Another example is how throughout the whole movie, it's primarily men who take drugs and abuse them, which shows their 'in the moment' mentality, ignorant of the consequences.



Women

- Women are shown to be more caring and emotional in this film. We see this as Diane has taken the time to write to Renton when he left.
- Other examples include the fact that the mother was the first to see the baby had passed, and was effected the most emotionally, and also how Renton's mother takes more care of him while his father acts as more of a background character, always standing behind her.

