

## **Intersectionality and the Problem of the MCU's Ancient One**

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Intersectionality, as the author explains, points out that people cannot be understood by looking at only one facet of their identity/experience. In particular, Crenshaw's theory stresses that people with more than one marginalized or oppressed identity (for instance, "woman" and "Black") experience oppression differently than people with differently intersecting identities (such as "man" and "Black" or "woman" and "white"). We all have multiple social identities (or ways that society identifies us, such as "Asian," "Homosexual," "Educated,"), some privileged and some marginalized. Try to identify some of your own identities, whether you think they are privileged or marginalized in your society, and why.

How many protagonists or heroes of movies can you think of that aren't cis-gendered white males? How might a lack of diverse heroes negatively impact society and/or individuals of marginalized groups?

Why is it a problem to "swap" someone with one marginalized identity with someone with a different identity? Can you think of any other examples in the entertainment industry of this happening?

On what grounds could we possibly criticize what these privately-funded studios do and the art that they choose to make? Why think these private businesses owe us anything?