

March 11, 2021

Dear Ms. Ann Sarnoff,

I need to take a few minutes to speak with you with regards to banning the Pepe Le Pew cartoons out of allegations of him normalizing sexual harassment. Why are you censoring out one of considerably the most recognizable and amorous of all the Looney Tunes characters?

Look at the background of the Looney Tunes and what they accomplished during their heyday. They have been famous for their methods of slapstick. Violent, nonviolent, you name it, they all made a name for themselves for their unique flavor of slapstick. Some of that humor included Mexicans through Speedy Gonzales and references to the South through Foghorn Leghorn. So, if they remained iconic characters for as long as they have, then why are you suddenly dismissing Pepe Le Pew as bad just because his moves are quote-unquote 'unfit' for today's audiences because of his romantic tendencies?

Not that you should do something about Foghorn Leghorn or Speedy Gonzales. On the other hand, you should just leave them alone and not care what other people have to say about them. Just like you shouldn't care what other people have to say about Pepe Le Pew and whether his actions were wrong or not. Pepe Le Pew was no different from the other characters in providing his own flair of humor, even if it involved wooing other female characters.

Look at some of the methods practiced in France, for example. More often than not, you would see men and women coddling each other or making moves on each other, and for the most part, they're all very harmless and very romantic.

What's making you think that keeping Pepe le Pew on board would automatically arouse allegations of you supporting sexual harassment? Shouldn't you just leave Pepe le Pew alone and just keep him on board because of the levels of cultural humor he accomplished during his heyday? And what he could still have left to accomplish?

France, or Italy, or Spain, some of the other countries around the world, and even the countless people here in America who do not mind such romantic coddling, what do you think they would say about Pepe le Pew being banned? Are they just going to say that it's okay? Well, it's not that simple.

Chances are, they have seen Pepe le Pew's romantic maneuvers and didn't mind him for devoting his sense of humor to them. Not everyone thinks that his moves were automatic sexual harassment. So why not lend an ear to everybody instead of those who like to continually insist that it's sexual harassment?

Heck, his debauchery, as far as I know, was no different than, say, Jim Carrey in The Mask. As a comedic character, his actions were pretty wild and leaning towards the sexual side, too. And yet, while Pepe le Pew is given the blame for his actions, The Mask is free of that blame regardless. Remind me again why that is?

Not only that, but when you look at iTunes, the digital collection "Pepe le Pew and Friends" have skyrocketed in sales over the past week, and I just made my purchase on that collection, too. Why? Because whether you like to admit it or not, there are still audiences out there who like Pepe's cartoons as they are. If that won't get you thinking twice about axing off Pepe le Pew, what will?

Seriously, rethink your decision to ban Pepe le Pew. And if it doesn't look like he's going to make it any time soon on the upcoming Space Jam movie, then at least consider having him appear again in the Looney Tunes ensemble after that and see what worth he still has in spite of his flaws.

Think it over, and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bryce Chismire