



## **“The Hot Pink Pen”**

**Blog conceived, created, and maintained  
by Jan Lisa Huttner  
[www.TheHotPinkPen.com](http://www.TheHotPinkPen.com)**

“*The Hot Pink Pen*” (aka “Penny”) is the nom de guerre of Jan Lisa Huttner, a longtime Feminist activist and self-professed advocate for women directors and screenwriters (creative filmmakers who are generally overlooked by the mainstream media). Even when their work is noticed, however, it's often misunderstood and/or rudely demeaned by critics in the mainstream media (almost all of whom are male). Penny's goal is to help women (and men) in audiences everywhere find some of the wonderful films that have been made (and will be made in future) by women filmmakers.

**The blog's tag line is: “Because the Pen is Mightier than the Sword!”**

Penny created her first post on September 9, 2007. Since that time, she has created over 1,000 new posts, 279 of which are either full reviews and/or capsule summaries of films either written and/or directed by women filmmakers. (Note that women often make “personal films,” choosing to serve in both roles.) Sixty-two of Penny's posts to date have been devoted to various Oscar races. Updates depend on what's happening at any given time. During the '09 Awards Season, there were dozens of posts and thousands of readers. During the “Dog Days” of summer, both dropped to a trickle.

Penny understands that some people might be offended by her strongly held views, so she hired cartoonist Sharon Rosenzweig to create a comic, self-deprecating image.

The bells Penny rang last year (about the elimination of *Slumdog Millionaire's* credited co-director Loveleen Tandan from Oscar contention) were heard all around the world from the *Wall Street Journal* to the *London Evening Standard* to the *South China Morning News!* Ms. Tandan was not invited to attend the Golden Globes, the SAG Awards, or the DGA Awards, but then the *Women's Media Center* started publicizing Penny's concerns, and Voila: There was Loveleen Tandan, in person, at the Oscars!

Penny is now actively campaigning for Kathryn Bigelow. At this point, Ms. Bigelow is almost guaranteed a nomination as Best Director for *The Hurt Locker* on February 2, 2010 (which will make her the 4th woman in Oscar history ever to be nominated), and there is also a good chance that she will win (which will make her the first woman ever to win an Oscar for Best Director in 81 years).

**Can there be any better proof positive of the power of the world-wide web?!?**

## Sample Pages from Huttner Blog *The Hot Pink Pen*

Selected Blog entries from *The Hot Pink Pen* are presented in chronological order, from 12/11/08 (the day the 2009 Golden Globe nominations were announced) to 12/15/09 (the day the 2010 Golden Globe nominations were announced). My contention is that Penny's activities on behalf of Loveleen Tandan (*Slumdog Millionaire's* credited co-director) are now playing a major role in the 2010 Oscar race—a race which may well result in a woman being named “Best Director” for the first time in Oscar history.

### December 11, 2008: 2009 Golden Globe Nominations Announced

Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due! - THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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## THE HOT PINK PEN

Focus on Women Filmmakers

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**THE HOT PINK PEN:**  
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### Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due!

[Click here to download letter to the HFPA.](#)



According to the [Internet Movie Database](#), Danny Boyle is the director of *Slumdog Millionaire* and Loveleen Tandan is his "co-director," but this morning the Hollywood Foreign Press Association nominated Danny Boyle, and Danny Boyle alone, for a Golden Globe award in the "Best Director" category. **Question: If Loveleen Tandan was Danny Boyle's co-director then, why isn't she his co-nominee now?** I sincerely believe this question deserves an answer, but unless we all ask, we'll never get one. So please open the pdf at top, print Page One, sign it, & mail it ASAP directly to Chantal Dinnage. If you feel the need to act immediately, then fax it to publicist Michael Russell as well. As my pdf explains, the stakes are high & this really IS something worth fighting for!!!

PS: Click [HERE](#) to read my FWA review of *Slumdog Millionaire* including Danny Boyle's own comments about Loveleen Tandan's contributions.

### Post Meta

- December 11, 2008
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
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## January 1, 2009: Oscar Campaign Heats Up

Oscar '09: Money versus Merit <THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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### Oscar '09: Money versus Merit

January 1, 2009

Rants: Oscars & Other Awards

No Comments

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Yes, I know, campaigning is nothing new in our culture, but I still don't think most people realize how much time, effort, & money go into Oscar campaigns every year. If we want to understand why Oscar is always so "blue," then Feminists need to figure out how the game is played & do a better job of playing it! Here's info from [LA Times blogger Tom O'Neil](#) about this year's barrage of screeners. Take my word for it: Each one of these screeners provides a detailed list of who to vote for in each specific category ("For Your Consideration"), & these options are governed by marketing considerations, not merit!

**So, since I was already sending out SLUMDOG questions, I sent one to O'Neil too:**

Dear Tom, I know for a fact that people all around the world have sent messages to the HFPA asking why Loveleen Tandan was not co-nominated for a Best Director award when both the IMDb & the official EPK list her as SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE's Co-Director. (This info is right at the top, below Danny Boyle's name & above screenwriter Simon Beaufoy's name). As an Oscar Expert, you know as well as I do that this placement is extremely unusual, so maybe you can get an answer from the GLOBE folks before the AMPAS folks finalize their noms??? Happy New Year! Jan Lisa Huttner Chicago

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## January 12, 2009: Golden Globe Awards Distributed

SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Golden Globes & Next Steps « THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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### SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Golden Globes & Next Steps



Many years back, a wonderful friend gave me a very funny coffee mug. Side one was a cartoon figure of a woebegone cow. Side two said: "You're outstanding in the field!" Alas, the mug has long since disappeared, but if I still had it, I'd mail it to Mumbai today. I understand that Loveleen Tandan needs to lay low so she's not misconstrued as "a troublemaker," but that doesn't mean WE don't see what's happening here.

According to last Friday's [Wall Street Journal](#) article, FOUR people holed themselves up some months back & emerged with the game plan for a new film. Three of them were middle-aged, British white guys. One of them was an Indian woman. Months pass. The film is released, it becomes a big hit, & the [Hollywood Foreign Press Assoc](#) nominates it for multiple awards. On Sunday January 11<sup>th</sup>, the HFPA assembles in LA to give awards in every top category to the three middle-aged, British white guys, but the Indian woman is nowhere to be seen, & [the contributions she made are barely acknowledged...](#)

If YOU think there's something very wrong with this picture, then please send a message to the HFPA &/or [Fox Searchlight](#) (SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE's distributor) ASAP. If YOU don't tell them, then they won't know!

Click here to read all of last night's [Golden Globe](#) results. Click here to [order balloon](#).

### Post Meta

- January 12, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
- One Comments
- Comments Feed
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## January 23, 2009: Oscar Nominations Announced

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Explorer browser window displaying a blog post. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.thehotpinkpen.com/?p=797>. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Sign Out, Help & Settings, and Feedback. The toolbar contains icons for Home, Connection Center, Favorites, Bing, Mail & More, Address Book, Calendar, Messenger, Safety, MSN Money, Photos, Spaces, and Shopping. The browser's status bar at the bottom indicates "Signed in online".

The blog post is titled "SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Reacting to Oscar Noms" and is dated January 23, 2009. The post's content discusses the Oscar nominations for the film *Slumdog Millionaire*, specifically focusing on the omission of director Loveleen Tandan. The author expresses surprise and disappointment, noting that Tandan was a critical part of the film's success. The post includes several paragraphs of text, a "Post Meta" sidebar with social media links, and a "Comments" section.

**SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Reacting to Oscar Noms**

Let me start this rant by reminding everyone that [I love SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE](#). It sits at #5 on my Top Ten list for 2008, & it's also one of our [FF2 '08 Twozies](#). So it's certainly NOT my intention to do anything to either damage box office prospects for this wonderful film, or negatively impact the flow of international awards & accolades. That said, I'm still stunned & shocked that Loveleen Tandan was not co-nominated for a Best Director Oscar yesterday.

I'm a resolutely optimistic, "glass-half-full" kinda gal, so I truly believed the zeitgeist would prevail. But alas, while people all around the world cheered Barack Obama's Inauguration on Tuesday, on Thursday it was back to business as usual in Hollywood: for the 78<sup>th</sup> time in 81 years, five guys became contenders for the '09 Best Director Oscar. Say it isn't so!!!

Try as she might to deflect attention now, Loveleen Tandan has been very [honest about her contributions](#) to SLUMDOG. And when asked face-to-face, Danny Boyle himself told me: "It would've been such a different, poorer film if she hadn't been involved, and I take credit for that, of course! As I was casting with her, I realized, because I'm not a fool, that [I needed her there every day](#)." So I'm asking you all to open your eyes & see what's happening here: knowing that Loveleen Tandan was a critical part of SLUMDOG's filmmaking & marketing phases, how can we all sit by & watch while she is totally ignored in the award phase?

Kudos to the journalists who have already followed up on this including [John Jurgensen](#) of the Wall Street Journal, [Prairie Miller](#) of WBAI, [Ramin Setoodeh](#) of Newsweek, [Melissa Silverstein](#) of the Huffington Post, [Amar Singh](#) of London's Evening Standard, [Anita Singh](#) of the UK Telegraph, & [Sasha Stone](#) of Awards Daily. I really, really think this is an important issue, & I genuinely believe that the more you know about this, the more you will agree!

**Post Meta**

- January 23, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
- 3 Comments
- Comments Feed
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January 23, 2009: Loveleen Tandan Reacts to Golden Globe Snub

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Explorer browser window displaying the website 'THE HOT PINK PEN'. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://www.thehotpinkpen.com/?p=802'. The website header features the title 'THE HOT PINK PEN' and the tagline 'Focus on Women Filmmakers'. Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for 'Home', 'Who?', 'What?', 'When?', 'Where?', 'Why?', 'Want More?', and 'Credits!'. The main content area features a cartoon illustration of a pink swan sitting at a desk with a laptop. The text of the article begins with the quote: "I wasn't invited..." and discusses Loveleen Tandan's reaction to not being invited to the Golden Globe ceremonies. To the right of the article is a 'Post Meta' sidebar with information such as the date 'January 23, 2009', the title 'Rants: Oscars & Other Awards', and a 'Comments Feed' section. At the bottom of the page, there are sections for 'Archives' (listing 'January 2010') and 'Categories' (listing 'Daily Hot List').

January 26, 2009: Letters to Bruce Davis Begin

SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Next Steps? « THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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# THE HOT PINK PEN

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## SLUMDOG Brouhaha: Next Steps?



In response to people who have asked what THEY should do if concerned about "my SLUMDOG Brouhaha." Please send a letter to Bruce Davis (the Executive Director of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences) asking why Loveleen Tandan, the credited co-director of SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE, is not a co-nominee for Best Director? It's a very simple question & at this point, I sincerely believe an answer is required. But we won't get one unless we ask.

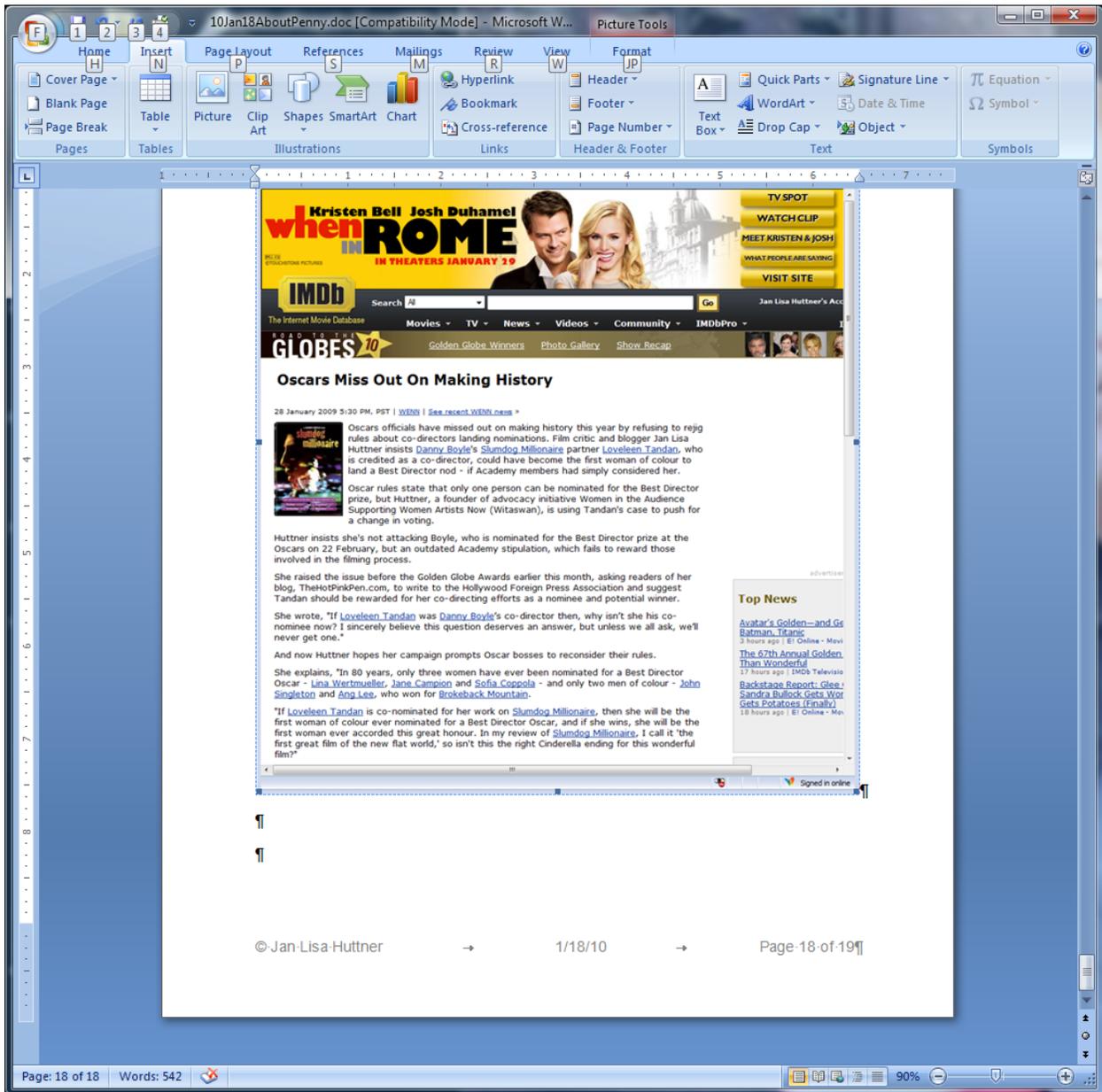
Logistically, my suggestion is that you send a fax with e-mail back-up as follows: Bruce Davis, Executive Director, AMPAS  
cc: Martha Coolidge, Curtis Hanson, & Paul Mazursky (AMPAS Directors Branch) c/o [Academy Communications Department](#)  
8949 Wilshire Boulevard  
Beverly Hills, California  
90211-1972  
Phone: 310.247.3090  
Fax: 310.271.3395 [publicity@oscars.org](mailto:publicity@oscars.org)  
<http://www.oscars.org/press/>

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## January 28, 2009: World Entertainment News Network Joins In



## January 30, 2009: WomenArts Sends “Action Alert” eBlast

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### Sent Today on FWA's “Action Alert” eBlast

**Our Hot Pink Pen Creates A Ruckus!**

  
Chicago Film Critic  
Jan Lisa Huttner

Jan Lisa Huttner, the Chicago film critic who is the co-founder of [International SWAN Day](#) and WITASWAN, has created an international stir about the directing credits for the film, *Slumdog Millionaire*...

When the Golden Globes nominated Boyle for “Best Director” but failed to mention Tandan, Huttner started a [letter writing campaign](#) asking the Golden Globes leaders to explain why they had not included Tandan with Boyle. Many of our readers joined the letter writing campaign, often adding touching stories of their own about not being recognized for their creative work.

The people at the Golden Globes never responded, but journalists in the U.S. and Great Britain [picked up on the story](#) including John Jurgensen of the Wall Street Journal, Prairie Miller of WBAI, Ramin Setoodeh of Newsweek, Melissa Silverstein of the Huffington Post, Amar Singh of London's Evening Standard, Anita Singh of the UK Telegraph, Sasha Stone of Awards Daily, and World Entertainment News Network published on IMDb News. The Oscar nominations came out this week, and once again Danny Boyle was nominated for Best Director of “Slumdog Millionaire,” and Loveleen Tandan was not mentioned.

Tandan is trying to distance herself from the controversy. We will never know if it is because she truly does not think she deserves the credit or because she is worried about being labeled as a “difficult” woman. The “co-director” title is ambiguous, and the situation is complicated by race as well as gender issues. The reporter for Newsweek pointed out that the faces in the movie are brown, but the ones on stage accepting Golden Globe Awards were all white.

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- January 30, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
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February 1, 2009: Directors Guild Snubs Loveleen Tandan

SLUMDOG Brouhaha: DGA Awards < THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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# THE HOT PINK PEN

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## SLUMDOG Brouhaha: DGA Awards

[Click HERE to download contact info for AMPAS.](#)



OK, so, last night the Directors Guild of America ([the DGA](#)) named Danny Boyle the Best Director of 2008. Furthermore, the DGA listed the members of "his team" on their website, naming the Unit Production Manager, First Assistant Director, Second Assistant Director, and Second Second Assistant Director. Bravo! But where is the credited Co-Director? Oops, she's still "[outstanding in the field...](#)"

That's right, folks. The DGA apparently doesn't recognize the title "Co-Director," so instead of finding a way to reward Loveleen Tandan's contributions to this extraordinary "Cinderella Story," they've decided to simply ignore her.

**Are YOU really going to sit by & simply watch while this happens???**  
**PLEASE ACT NOW!**  
**PLEASE A SEND [MESSAGE](#) TO AMPAS ASAP!!!**

### Post Meta

- February 1, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
- No Comments
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## February 2, 2009: Penny Attacked in Blogosphere

SLUMDOG Brouhaha: What's My Motivation???

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### SLUMDOG Brouhaha: What's My Motivation???

[Read Jan's Horoscope as a pdf file.](#)

**SAGITTARIUS**  
February 2, 2009

Don't let things bother you. You Sagittarius have confidence that you are on the right track. Your strong will and inner resolve will actually prove to be your strength as you face the future. When things seem to be heading in the wrong direction, take the opportunity to push the reins when other people think you should give. You might find yourself on a better path. Just this is the because you know exactly what needs to be done.

So Saturday I was personally attacked by Kim Voyner in Movie City News. She accuses me of "[writing ill-informed opinions](#)" without offering any evidence that's she actually read any of the relevant source materials (such as the [Wall Street Journal](#) article) not to mention my [f2f interview](#) with Danny Boyle.

Thankfully MSN provided a wonderful horoscope when I logged in this AM. Now I generally don't put much stock in these kinds of things, but this is so timely that I had to share it. If Kim (& likeminded others) would bother to look, they'll find I've been writing about related topics for years now.

I have NPR's *Talk of the Nation* on in the background as I type. They're talking about the effect Barack Obama's ascension is having on African-American boys. This is exactly the kind of thing I'm after. Can you imagine the impact on little girls all around the world if Loveleen Tandan gets an Oscar on February 22<sup>nd</sup> (an Oscar I really do believe she deserves)???

Here's last graph in my [award-winning article](#) on the '04 Oscar noms: "No one tells you that you can't do something anymore. You just don't see women doing the things that you want to do," says screenwriter Lizzy Weiss, who wrote last year's *Blue Crush* and was inspired when Callie Khouri won an Oscar for her groundbreaking *Thelma and Louise* screenplay in 1992. "But every time this happens, young women think to themselves, 'That could be me!'"

February 2, 2009

Rants: Oscars & Other Awards

No Comments

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## February 6, 2009: Women's Media Center "Will Be Watching"

Women's Media Center & SLUMDOG Brouhaha <THE HOT PINK PEN - MSN Explorer

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### Women's Media Center & SLUMDOG Brouhaha



Carol Jenkins of the Women's Media Center focused her spotlight on "my SLUMDOG Brouhaha" yesterday, including this item in her [blog update](#).

"From WMC Media Director Tristin Aaron: In early December, WMC friend [Lucy Knight](#) looped us in on the controversy surrounding *Slumdog Millionaire's* 'co-director' Loveleen Tandan. She forwarded information on the curious case of Tandan's role in the film from Chicago-based film critic and blogger Jan Lisa Huttner. We have been following this complex and fascinating story as it has unfolded in the media, and I blogged about it this week. The WMC will be watching the Oscars closely to see if Ms. Tandan is present or thanked, and the implications for all women in film."

**Thanks to Carol, to Tristin, & to WMC!!!**

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February 9, 2009: Penny Lays Down Her Statistical Barrage

**SLUMDOG & THE TYRANNY OF DEAD IDEAS**  
[Click HERE for Newly Revised '08 Oscar Impact Chart.](#)

OSCAR IMPACT CHART  
Updated with 2008 Data

Year	White	Black	Hispanic	Female	Male	Director	Winner	Percentage
2008	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2007	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2006	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2005	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2004	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2003	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
2002	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
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1904	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
1903	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
1902	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
1901	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%
1900	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	100%

I heard a very interesting [segment on NPR this AM](#), an interview with Matt Miller about his new book *The Tyranny of Dead Ideas*. Miller explicitly endorsed the main message in President Obama's recent Inauguration Address: let's drop the rhetoric, figure out what actually works, & plan our future accordingly. I agree.

Many, many people are contacting me now to explain "the rules," suggesting that if I only understood "the rules," then I wouldn't be concerned, surprised, or upset about the fact that SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE's [credited co-director](#) hasn't been nominated for any Best Director awards. If only it were that easy!

I fully understand "the rules," thank you very much, but here's my point: if current rules produce abysmal results, then I think the powers that be need to examine their rules & make appropriate changes. Stop & consider the actual numbers: do YOU really want to defend the fact that over 99% of all individuals ever nominated for a Best Director Oscar have been male??? Is this really a fact that YOU think should be simply ignored, now, at the end of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century???

This is not a joke, folks, this is a fact! In 80 years of Oscar history, 99.25% of all nominations for Best Director have gone to men. Furthermore, 99.25% of all nominations for Best Director have gone to white men. (John Singleton was nominated for BOYZ N THE HOOD in 1992, & Ang Lee was nominated in 2001 for CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON & in 2006 for BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN.) Furthermore 100% of all Oscar-winning Directors have been men, & 98.75% of all Oscar-winning Directors have been white men. (Ang Lee broke the color barrier when he won in 2006.)

If this is the system YOU are defending, then I suggest you give serious thought to buying a copy of *The Tyranny of Dead Ideas*. Me? I will continue to fight this by asking AMPAS to examine its rules, identify sources of hidden bias, & make necessary internal reforms. If YOU agree, then [please write to AMPAS](#) & tell them so. If you do NOT agree, then please give me better reasons than same old, same old, because *The Tyranny of Dead Ideas* will never sway me.

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February 17, 2009: WMC Advances “the Need for “Change”

**THE HOT PINK PEN**  
Focus on Women Filmmakers

THE HOT PINK PEN is an advocate for women directors & screenwriters, creative filmmakers who are generally overlooked by the mainstream media. Even when their work is noticed, however, it's often misunderstood &/or rudely demeaned. THE HOT PINK PEN is now here to right these wrongs, & help women (& men) in audiences everywhere find wonderful films by women filmmakers.

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### Big Thanks to Kavery Kaul & WMC!

The Women's Media Center posted a wonderful piece today by doc filmmaker [Kavery Kaul](#). She ends her essay *Of Slumdog and Loveleen* as follows:

"Today, a woman in India raises concern in the United States about the under-representation of women directors. Did she give of herself too generously to the project? Did she fail to grab for the brass ring when opportunity struck? An Englishman gave her the title of co-director and sparked debate about whether that indicates recognition or condescension. People are often reluctant participants in issues they didn't create. The questions muddy matters of a delicate balance. They can shatter the spontaneity of a rare moment. Yet, they often push us forward by highlighting the need for change."

I won't add to the ugliness by sharing any of the contents of any of the nasty, intimidating messages I've received since I began writing about "my SLUMDOG Brouhaha," but suffice it to say that posts like Kavery's make it ALL worthwhile!

**Thank you, Kavery, & thanks also to WMC!**

### Post Meta

- February 17, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
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February 23, 2009: Loveleen Tandan Attends Oscars in Person

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Explorer browser window displaying the website 'THE HOT PINK PEN'. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://www.thehotpinkpen.com/?p=855'. The website header features the title 'THE HOT PINK PEN' and the subtitle 'Focus on Women Filmmakers', along with a search bar. Below the header is a cartoon illustration of a pink flamingo sitting at a desk with a laptop. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a post titled 'SLUMDOG: Declare Victory & Move On' with a small image of the SLUMDOG team. The right column is titled 'Post Meta' and lists details for the post, including the date 'February 23, 2009', the topic 'Rants: Oscars & Other Awards', and the number of comments '4 Comments'. The browser's status bar at the bottom indicates 'Signed in online'.

SLUMDOG: Declare Victory & Move On

**Tuesday Update: More photos = less trust required!**  
**See these [great pix](#) posted on [Highheel Confidential](#)!**

You'll just have to trust me on this, my friends: that "flash of red" you saw when the SLUMDOG team ran up on the stage last night to collect the Oscar for Best Picture? [That was Loveleen Tandan!](#) I'm not a "what if" kinda gal. Once something is in the past there's no way to "go back," so why bother?

We will never know how SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE would have fared (either critically or commercially) without Loveleen Tandan in the "co-director" role. Similarly we will never know if she would have been at the Oscar ceremony last night if I hadn't been sitting here in Chicago these last few months making such a fuss with "[my SLUMDOG Brouhaha](#)."

For all of you who still doubt my motives, accusing me of risking damage to her career for the sake of my own causes (or worse, simple self-aggrandizement), all I can say is this: SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE will forever be known now as an [Oscar-winning Best Picture](#), & Loveleen Tandan was part of the team that flew to Hollywood to help claim the prize. More people know her name now than knew it a few months ago, & more people are aware of [Hollywood's abysmal stats re female filmmakers](#) than ever before. So I'm ready to "Declare Victory & Move On."

Post Meta

- February 23, 2009
- Rants: Oscars & Other Awards
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## July 24, 2009: Bigelow Emerges as 2010 Oscar Contender

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# THE HOT PINK PEN

Focus on Women Filmmakers

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THE HOT PINK PEN is an advocate for women directors & screenwriters, creative filmmakers who are generally overlooked by the mainstream media. Even when their work is noticed, however, it's often misunderstood &/or rudely demeaned. THE HOT PINK PEN is now here to right these wrongs, & help women (& men) in audiences everywhere find wonderful films by women filmmakers.

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### Kudos to EW's Adam B. Vary!



“And now with her latest project, *THE HURT LOCKER*, Bigelow has crafted a bona fide art-house hit—and is helping make 2009 one of the strongest year's ever for female filmmakers... consider this: If any woman earns a Best Director nomination come February, it will be only the *fourth* time in history.”

OK, so some of you flamed me last winter for have the hubris to suggest that “my *SLUMDOG Brouhaha*” was related in any way to the fact that Loveleen Tandan was on stage in February when the *SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE* team collected its Best Picture Oscar. So you'll probably flame me again for suggesting that there's any relationship now. Flame away folks, but this is exactly how it works. Regardless of any arguments for or against nominating Loveleen Tandan herself, I am absolutely certain that “my *SLUMDOG Brouhaha*” helped [focus attention on Oscar Stats](#), & bringing those stats out of the darkness & into the light is bearing fruit now.

So women, I'm literally begging you: [PLEASE see THE HURT LOCKER](#) as soon as it opens in a theatre near you. Build box office revenue, build buzz, and get ready to applaud when Kathryn Bigelow is nominated for a Best Director Oscar in January.

**WE can do this; Yes WE Can!!!**

### Post Meta

- July 24, 2009
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## September 12, 2009: Will '10 Echo Record-Setting '04 Oscar Noms?

are generally overlooked by the mainstream media. Even when their work is noticed, however, it's often misunderstood &/or rudely demeaned. THE HOT PINK PEN is now here to right these wrongs, & help women (& men) in audiences everywhere find wonderful films by women filmmakers.

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### Kudos to Michael Cieply NYT!

By Toronto, Directing to Clearly Women's Work



You can't imagine the electric current that went thru me as I read this [article in the New York Times](#) yesterday because the person ringing all the bells about the 2004 Oscar Noms, was, you guessed it, yours truly. As I called around doing interviews for [my Women's eNews](#) article, everyone was focused on Sofia Coppola. Almost no one (not even the folks at Women in Film in LA!) had fully appreciated the bigger picture. My article ended up winning the "[Best News Article Written for the Internet](#)" award from NPFW the following year, effectively setting me on my way.

But as you read my article in current context, note this: I asserted then (& I still assert now) that [success in 2004](#) didn't just depend on a good crop of films. It was also a result of the fact that many women (including me) [howled in protest](#) when Julie Taymor was NOT nominated for Best Director for [FRIDA](#) (even tho FRIDA received 6 nominations & eventually won 2 Oscars).

If history is repeating itself, then perhaps the howling we did last year about Loveleen Tandan ("[My SLUMDOG Brouhaha](#)") has helped to sensitize everyone again this year? Before you blow me off &/or accuse me of grandiosity (or worse) consider this: [THE HURT LOCKER](#) screened in Toronto last year... but it was barely noticed... When [Independent Spirit Award noms](#) were announced on 12/2/08, only Mackie & Renner got noms (quickly forgotten as the '09 race heated up). But as Cieply points out, [THE HURT LOCKER](#) now has Oscar buzz for 2010. What changed? Well, lots of things changed (including the election of Barack Obama & new conditions in Iraq), but two things that did NOT change: the film & its director.

**Think about it folks... Let's keep the pressure up!!!**  
**"We have nothing to fear but fear itself."**

### Post Meta

	September 12, 2009
	Rants: Oscars & Other Awards, Raving/Ranting about Critics/Journalists
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## December 15, 2009: 2010 Golden Globe nominations Announced

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### Just Because She's a Woman???



Way back in July, when I declared "Game On!" on FF2, I told you all that my "horse" in this year's Oscar Race would be Kathryn Bigelow. Here it is, December & the Golden Globe nominations for 2010 were announced this AM: KB is one of five Best Director finalists & her film THE HURT LOCKER is one of five finalists for Best Motion Picture-Drama. Is this "just because she's a woman?" No!!! Does being a woman help? Yes!!! For two reasons:

First, THE HURT LOCKER is a terrific film that scores way above KB's co-nominees on [ROTTEN TOMATOES](#), & the fact that it's a great "war movie" made by a woman has given it extra attention from many women who might not have gone to see it otherwise. Second, I believe that men of conscience everywhere were humiliated by "[my SLUMDOG Brouhaha](#)" last year. Regardless of whether they agreed with me or not about Loveleen Tandan's contributions to SLUMDOG, I think they hadn't really paid attention to the statistics before, & [seeing the statistics made many men queasy](#). If we had, in fact, transcended our prejudices, then why were the statistics still so awful!?

Why do I believe this? I believe this because most of the people who contacted me last year with messages of support & encouragement were men!!! And most of the negative feedback I received last year came from women!!!

**So KB: You Go, Girl. I'm here cheering for you all the way ☺**

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