



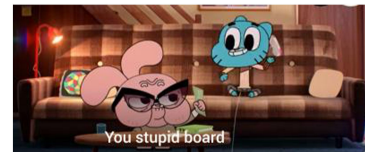
INTRODUCTION

Censorship refers to the removal of morally harmful, politically dangerous, erotic, vulgar, or inappropriate language and action. Our research focuses on the opinions of viewers about censorship in Turkey. We aim to reveal the viewers' reactions to censorship in media; thus, we chose *The Amazing World of Gumball*, animated TV series as our case from which we selected some censored scenes as examples for our online survey.

LITERATURE REVIEW

"Film censorship in Turkey has been one of the most important issues determining the relationship between cinema and the state." (Güngör, 2009)

"But the most interesting aspect of censorship is perhaps the fact that it occurs not only when external sources like governments, distribution companies or networks force a show or movie to change something or translators to replace certain parts of their translations in order to adhere to what they consider "politically correct," but also when translators become self-censors by being unaware of sexual connotations, puns on words, taboo elements, etc. or when, in spite of being aware of them, they still decide to modify them to "protect the audience." (Scandura, 2004)



METHODOLOGY

First, we analyzed the animation with Turkish subtitles to identify the censored parts. We used these parts in our survey as examples to show the participants.

Then we conducted an online survey consisting of eight questions to find out viewers' opinions about censorship in the subtitled or dubbed films.

800 people between the ages of 7 and 45+ participated in the survey in total.

DATA ANALYSIS

The Amazing World of Gumball is an animated tv show aired on 3 May 2011. It is a comedy show about adventures of a ten-year-old boy named Gumball and adoptive brother. This show includes elements of surreal comedy and satire. The Turkish version the show aired on 1 November 2011. After a while controversy and complaints began to arise because of the huge amount of censorship in Turkey.

One of the most controversial censorship in the Turkish version of Gumball is omission of the expression of you stupid board. This line is completely removed.

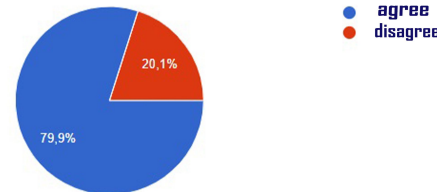
A short clip of which principal and teacher are about to kiss is also partly removed in episode 17th of season 1.

Creating a monster part in the animation might be disturbing to Turkish audience, since its style is satirical and dark.

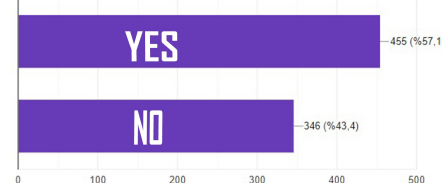


SURVEY RESULTS

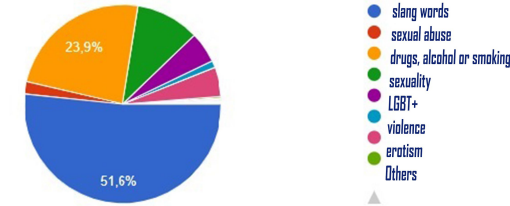
We asked 8 questions, one of which is "Censorship in subtitling/dubbing means ignoring the audience who do not know the original language". Almost 80% of viewers agree with this expression as can be observed in the below chart.



Another question is "Is censorship in subtitling/dubbing necessary for the viewers under certain age?" Then 57% of the participants say Yes, thus giving consent to censorship when children are the audience.



For the question "What is the most common type of censorship you encountered?", half of the participants answer as "Slang usage". You can see the other types below.



CONCLUSION

Our comparative analysis has revealed that the animation *The Amazing World of Gumball* was censored massively in the process of translation. For instance, we observed that the use of slang expressions and alcohol scenes were frequently censored. Additionally, our survey results have shown that viewers approach censorship in subtitling/dubbing differently depending on the age of target audience. Although participants think that by censoring the original film they are being treated disrespectfully, they find censorship necessary when applied to children animations. Thus, they separate children's media from adults' media. Furthermore, our survey has shown that most people find censorship in translation unnecessary and manipulative.

See full survey results



REFERENCES