

# ASLEEP

Nicole is not happy with her boyfriend and wants to change him.

**Before watching:** Read through the **glossary** to familiarize yourself with the expressions. Just by looking at the glossary, what do you think the movie will be about?

move in together	<i>flytta ihop</i>
out	(här) ute, borta
sueded for	<i>ämnade för</i>
advanced	<i>avancerad</i>
to adapt	att anpassa sig
amount	<i>mängd</i>
intimate	<i>intim</i>
disinterest	<i>ointresse</i>
to adjust	<i>att reglera</i>
intuitive	<i>intuitiv</i>
patience	<i>tålamod</i>
to evolve	<i>att utvecklas</i>
current	<i>nuvarande</i>
rate	(här) takt
to fit	<i>att passa</i>
average	<i>medel</i>
to burn out	<i>slockna</i>
to review	<i>att gå igenom, att undersöka</i>
coarse	<i>grov</i>
to update	<i>att uppdatera</i>
remotely	<i>från avstånd, på distans</i>
to judge	<i>att avgöra</i>
to avoid	<i>att undvika</i>



**While watching:** Pause the movie at **1:48** and discuss together as a group.

Discuss together

1. Who is in this movie?
2. Where does the movie take place?
3. What do you think will happen next?

**After watching:** Read through the questions below and answer them.

What is your understanding of what happens in the movie?

**A.** Answer these questions for yourself at first, then discuss them in pairs.

1. Why does Nicole want to change her boyfriend?
2. How will she do that?
3. Who is it she's talking with on the phone?

**B.** Answer these questions in pairs:

1. Why do you think Nicole has a robot boyfriend and not a real one?
2. What do you think makes her change her mind about him?
3. What is it you think we see glimpses of when we see a couple outdoors being close to each other?

**C.** Answer these questions together as a group:

1. What do you think would happen with our society if we could custom make partners? Where do you think that would bring us as a human race?
2. Why do you think the movie is called *Asleep*? What do you think the deeper meaning of the title could be? See if you can think of more meanings to it than just one.
3. What do you think is the message of the movie? What can we learn from it?
4. How do you think the movie makers want us to feel after having watched the movie?

## What to do next

Choose one or more out of the following exercises to work with.

-  Draw and write:

Work on your own. This movie is set in a near distant future. How can we tell that the movie doesn't take place today? How can we tell it is set in the future? In the movie, we don't see much more than the inside of Nicole's apartment. What other things do you think are different in the world in which the movie takes place? Make a drawing or make lists explaining new possible inventions in this world.

-  Discuss:

Work in groups of three or four and discuss qualities one could want from a partner in a relationship. Try to talk in terms of adjectives and write down the adjectives you come up with. Talk about why these qualities would be desired. Which different preferences could you agree on in the group? Which ones were different? Which qualities be desired in a friendship? How do these qualities differ or agree with the qualities you desire from a partner? Which conclusions could you draw from this discussion as a group?

-  Four corners:

Work together as a class and discuss ethics and moral through a four corners exercise. Go to one corner of the classroom if you "agree" with the following statement, a different one for "disagree", a third one for "undecisive" and one for "I don't want to say". Explain why you chose as you did.

1. It would be nice if we could custom make our partners
2. It would be nice if we could custom make our friends
3. It is important to be flexible in a relationship (any type of relationship)
4. It is okay to change objects that we grow tired of
5. It is okay to change people that we grow tired of
6. It is okay to change pets that we grow tired of
7. Friends' opinions matter when it comes to my choice of partner
8. I could never date a person my friends didn't like
9. I could never date a person my parents didn't like
10. I would probably change more things in my life if it was easy, as with an app
11. If I could change my own personality through an app, I would
12. Humanoid robots could be useful
13. Humanoid robots will be a fact in the future
14. The reality of this movie could be possible in the future
15. I think people will be more like robots or cyborgs in the future

## Deeper discussions



“Asleep” is a Canadian movie set in the future. For these exercises, work in smaller groups of 3-4 and research on the internet.

- Investigate the ratio of singles in different countries. How many people are singles in Canada? Compare that to countries such as Sweden, France and China. What does the average single person in each of the countries look like when it comes to age, education, gender and income? How do you think this affects the countries? How do you think the countries and cultures affect that people are single? Are there any laws or traditions that affect people’s decisions? In which ways do they do that? Explain what you find and see if you can find correlations between the different factors.
- Look into new innovations and technology that people predict will change the future. In what areas are these mainly? What do you think about these innovations? Who will benefit from them? In what way do you think they will change our lives?
- Humanoid robots are a growing industry in some parts of the world, such as Japan. In what areas could humanoid robots and service bots be of use and why? Look into these robots, who are they and what made them special?
  - Nadine
  - Sophia
  - Erica
  - Junko Chihira
  - Jia Jia
  - Aibo
  - Qoobo
  - Lovot
  - Bocco Emo
  - Paro

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