

**WGS. 101 Spring 2023 HW Assignment on *Picture A Scientist* (Sharon Shattuck and Ian Cheney, 2020)**  
**Due: Class 22**

Respond to the questions below in one to one and a half pages.

1. Comment on your general reaction to the film.
2. The film opens with Dr. Jane Willenbring talking about her young daughter visiting her lab. Why do you think the filmmakers chose this as the opening sequence?
3. What are the most common barriers faced by the three female scientists in the film: Dr. Jane Willenbring, Dr. Raychelle Burks and Dr. Nancy Hopkins?
4. What specific issues does Dr. Raychelle Burks face as an African-American female scientist? How does “code-switching” play a role in her life? Do you see the pressure to “code-switch” playing a role for women of color in STEM?
5. The film doesn’t specifically focus on scientists who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. What issues would you include if you were making a film on scientists who identify as LGBTQ+?
6. How aware were you before seeing the film of the 1999 MIT report on the Status of Women Faculty in Science? What issues still remain at MIT, in your view?

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WGS.101 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies  
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