As regards the actors in Griffith's films, such as Broken Blossoms (1919) starring Lilian Gish and Richard Barthelmess, the filmmaker encouraged natural and convincing acting performances, an effect that was also emphasised by the use of medium close-ups and close-ups. These shots were already used by the English cinematic school of James Williamson and George Albert Smith, but not in a narrative way or in a feature-length film, since this type of film didn't exist at that time – in fact, feature-length films were first introduced around the time of Griffith's most prolific works, giving the d Identifier

dw_griffith_birth_of_a_nation. Sound silent. Year 1915.  (It didn't match the stories passed down in my family at. all.) We hear a lot, today, about “hate” & "racism", but I have never heard anyone- especially those who are so frivolously accused of these, reach the poisonous hatred & viciousness of the abolitionist yankees of the era or of the liberals & blacks, today.  David W. Griffith's wonderfully visionary story about World War I, the consequences of seeking retributions from and causing damage to Germany under the Treaty of Versailles, the formation of The League of Nations to try to enforce the unfair terms of that treaty, and the equally horrible (but very predictable) retaliation by the misled followers of a racist visioniory of an Aryan.