

Q1 2020 REPORT

What Makes a Winning Super Bowl Commercial?

The cost of ad time during the 2020 Super Bowl hit a record high— \$5.6MM for a 30-second spot.¹ With a price tag that steep, game day impressions alone are not enough. For advertisers to see a real ROI, an ad needs to have sustained impact from Sunday night into Monday morning and beyond. A winning Super Bowl commercial isn't just seen – it's shared and remembered.

So, what are the elements within an ad that make a lasting impact on the largest American television audience of the year? QuickFrame unleashed its Video Intelligence technology on every Super Bowl commercial from the last four years to find out.



GENDER: MALE

NAME: JEFF BEZOS

CELEBRITY TYPE: BUSINESS/EXEC



Insights Uncovered:



Tone: From the ridiculous to the sublime, hitting the right tone can move audiences to laughter or tears – but is one more effective than the other? It all depends on your vertical.



Gender: How are shifting cultural tides reshaping the gender landscape of Super Bowl Ads? They're casting more female-only commercials.



Music: A license for a catchy, recognizable song will increase your production budget, but it will also increase the likelihood that viewers will sing your praises.



Animals: It is no surprise that commercials with animals are enjoyable, but you might be surprised which types of animals are liked the most—cats and reptiles (sorry dog lovers!).



Robots: Marketers are featuring robots more than ever, but those commercials are less memorable on average.



Messaging: While it might cause sparks to fly in your living room, commercials that touch on a political issue (e.g., immigration, gay rights) are burned into people's minds.



Style: Choosing whether to shoot a live action commercial or produce an animated spot has little bearing on memorability—but it is best to stick to one style and not mix the two.



Celebrities: Viewers like ads with musical celebrities more than those with athletes. Is the Super Bowl more of a musical event than sporting?

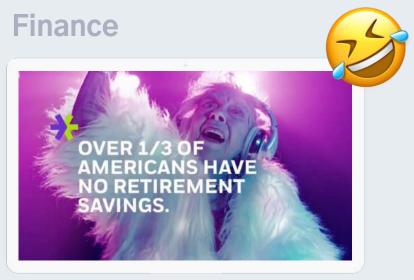


Which tone do viewers prefer: Funny (**) or Sentimental (**)?



It all depends on your vertical:

- Alcohol, Automotive, CPG, Finance
- 6 Food & Bev, Gaming, Tech, Telecom



• WATCH HERE

E-Trade

"This Is Getting Old"

2018

Food & Bev



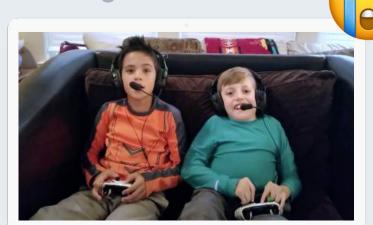
WATCH HERE

LIFEWTR

"Inspiration Drops"

2017

Gaming



WATCH HERE

Microsoft Xbox

"We All Win"

2019



Think #SuperBowlSundaysAreFortheBoys? Think again.



While spots that feature both men and women remain the most popular, the significance of movements like #MeToo is evident in the sharp increase in ads with all-female talent since 2017.

Top-Performing Ads Featuring Both Genders

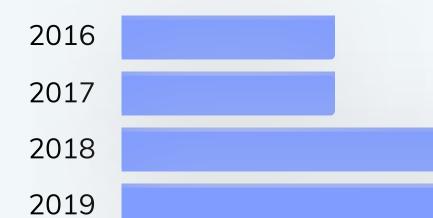


Honda

"Yearbooks"

2017

WATCH HERE



Growth in Ads with Female-

Only Casting

amazon

Amazon

"Not Everything Makes the Cut"

2019

• WATCH HERE



Should brands splurge on licensing a popular song?



100% Yes. A catchy, recognizable song leaves a lasting impression.

"I Need a Hero"
Bonnie Tyler



• WATCH HERE

Kia

"Hero's Journey"

2017

"Bodak Yellow" by Cardi B



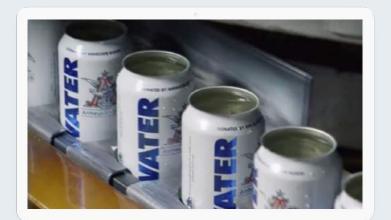
• WATCH HERE

Amazon

"Alexa Loses Her Voice"

2018

"Stand by Me" by Skylar Grey



WATCH HERE

Budweiser

"Stand By You"

2018



Who rules the Animal Kingdom on game day?



Don't mess with cats...or reptiles.
They leave a more lasting impression than any other animal on game day.

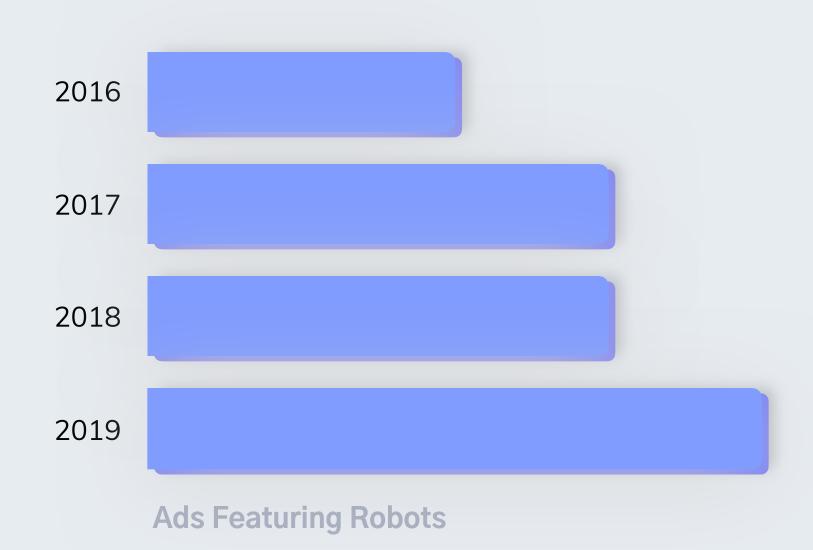




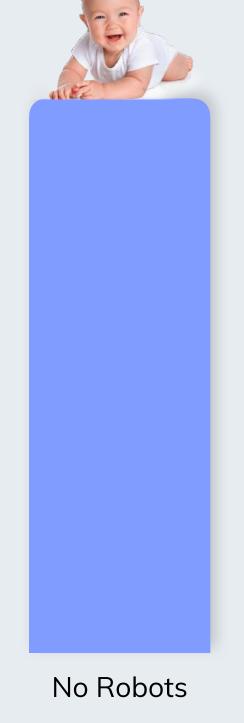
Embrace the AI takeover or rage against the machine?



Despite a steady increase in ads featuring robots year over year, they consistently struggle to move the needle for audiences.







USA TODAY Ad Meter Score

Robots



Get on your soapbox or keep calm and carry on?



Step right up. Brands that took a stance on social and political issues struck a chord. An authentic message about a timely cause proved more galvanizing than divisive.

Sustainability



• WATCH HERE

Kia

"Hero's Journey"

2017

Fake News



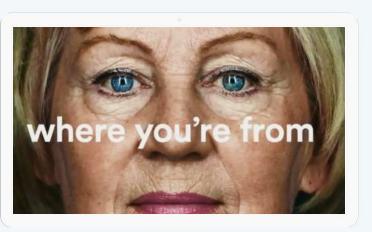
• WATCH HERE

Washington Post

"Democracy Dies in Darkness"

2019

Equality



• WATCH HERE

Airbnb

"We Accept"

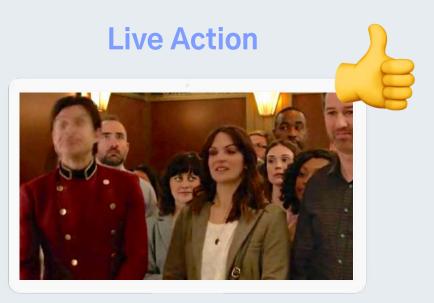
2017



Live-action commercials are better than animated spots, right?



Think again. Viewers respond to liveaction and animated commercials similarly, but more negatively to a combination of the two.

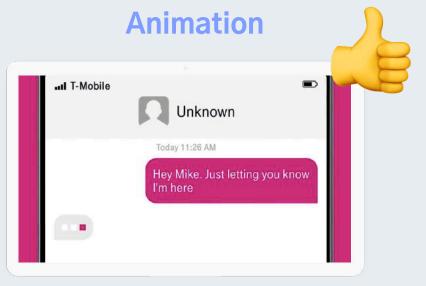


• WATCH HERE

Hyundai

"The Elevator: Shopper Assurance"

2019

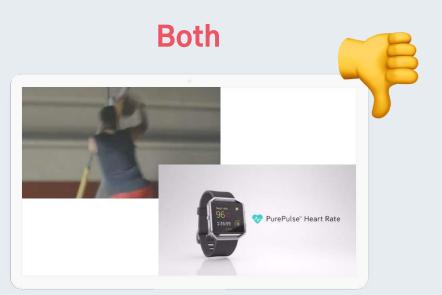


• WATCH HERE

T-Mobile

"Lyfted"

2019



• WATCH HERE

Fitbit

"Dualities"

2016

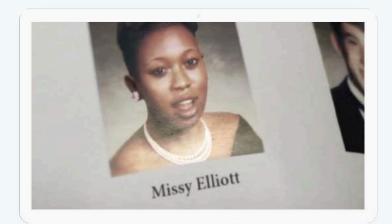


Which type of celebrity makes the biggest impact on viewers?



When it comes to cameos, musicians win out over athletes, actors and every other type of celebrity.

Missy Elliott



• WATCH HERE

Honda

"Yearbooks"

2017

Busta Rhymes



• WATCH HERE

Doritos vs. Mountain Dew

"Battle"

2018

Justin Timberlake



• WATCH HERE

Bai

"Bye Bye Bye"

2017

About This Report

QuickFrame's Video Intelligence compared the elements contained within the past four years of Super Bowl commercials against the USA TODAY Super Bowl Ad Meter scores to uncover which video attributes are most strongly tied to viewer preference.

Sample Attributes Analyzed:

Tone/Sentiment

Talent Gender

Presence of Animals

Presence of Robots

Presence of Celebrities

Audio Style

Video Style/Format

+ more

Commercials Ingested:

2016

2017





2018

2019





Analysis included commercials that aired pre-game through the 4th quarter and excluded network promos/trailers.

n = 275 commercials

QuickFrame

Hit your KPIs with QuickFrame's intelligent Video-as-a-Service platform. We unlock your ability to create more video content that is designed to perform by solving for two of the largest problems around video—the slow, expensive production process and the lack of clarity around what drives results with your target audience.

Our marketplace of global creators efficiently produces scalable, platform-optimized, on-brand videos. Our Al-powered analytics tool provides deep insight into what improves video effectiveness. With QuickFrame, you can do more with video, so video can do more for you.

For more information about how QuickFrame's Video Intelligence technology can benefit your brand, please contact us — hello@quickframe.com.