

## Short Review: “The Stepford Wives” (1975) by Dr. John L. Flynn



**The Stepford Wives** (1975). Fadsin Cinema Associates, 115 min. Director: Bryan Forbes. Producer: Edgar J. Scherick. Screenwriter: William Goldman. Novel by Ira Levin. Cast: Katherine Ross, Paula Prentiss, Peter Masterson, Nanette Newman, Patrick O'Neal, and Tina Louise.

Based on the best-selling thriller by Ira Levin, the story suggests that newly arrived wives to the sleepy Connecticut hamlet of Stepford are replaced with robot duplicates. These duplicates, programmed by a former Disney employee (O'Neal), are well-behaved, highly-sexed, contented submissives. What more could a man ask for??? Well, when a feminist (Ross) moves in and starts to shake things up, representatives of the local men's club must work fast to preserve their ideal little community. Katherine Ross never looked better, particularly naked in the sheer negligee her robot double wears in the chilling finale, and Tina Louise underscores the reason why Gilligan spent all those years on that deserted island. If only Walt Disney had turned his talents to producing perfect robot wives instead of theme parks, we'd all be living in paradise today! I loved this

film, and pray each night that this vision of the future comes true. Followed by two sequels, “Revenge of the Stepford Wives” (1980) and “The Stepford Children” (1987), and an inferior remake.

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