

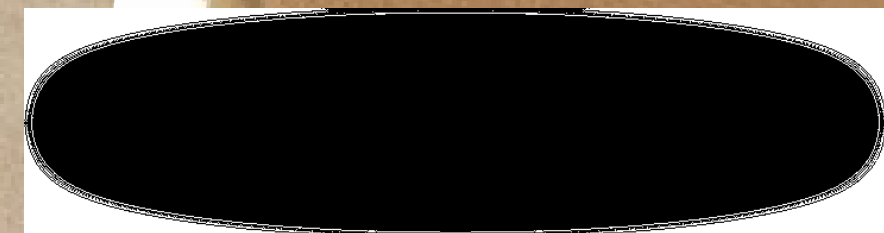
Although the White Lady is a comedy, it is at the same time a sharp sociological analysis of how the socialist authoritarian regimes of Eastern Europe worked. What does it tell us?

The White Lady



what is it about

- Satirical and critical view of socialist authoritarian regime in Eastern Europe
- Addresses authoritarianism, censorship, and media control in 1960s Czechoslovakia
- Uses humor and satire to provide sociological insights into regime manipulation and control
- Highlights how people were coerced into obeying oppressive rules





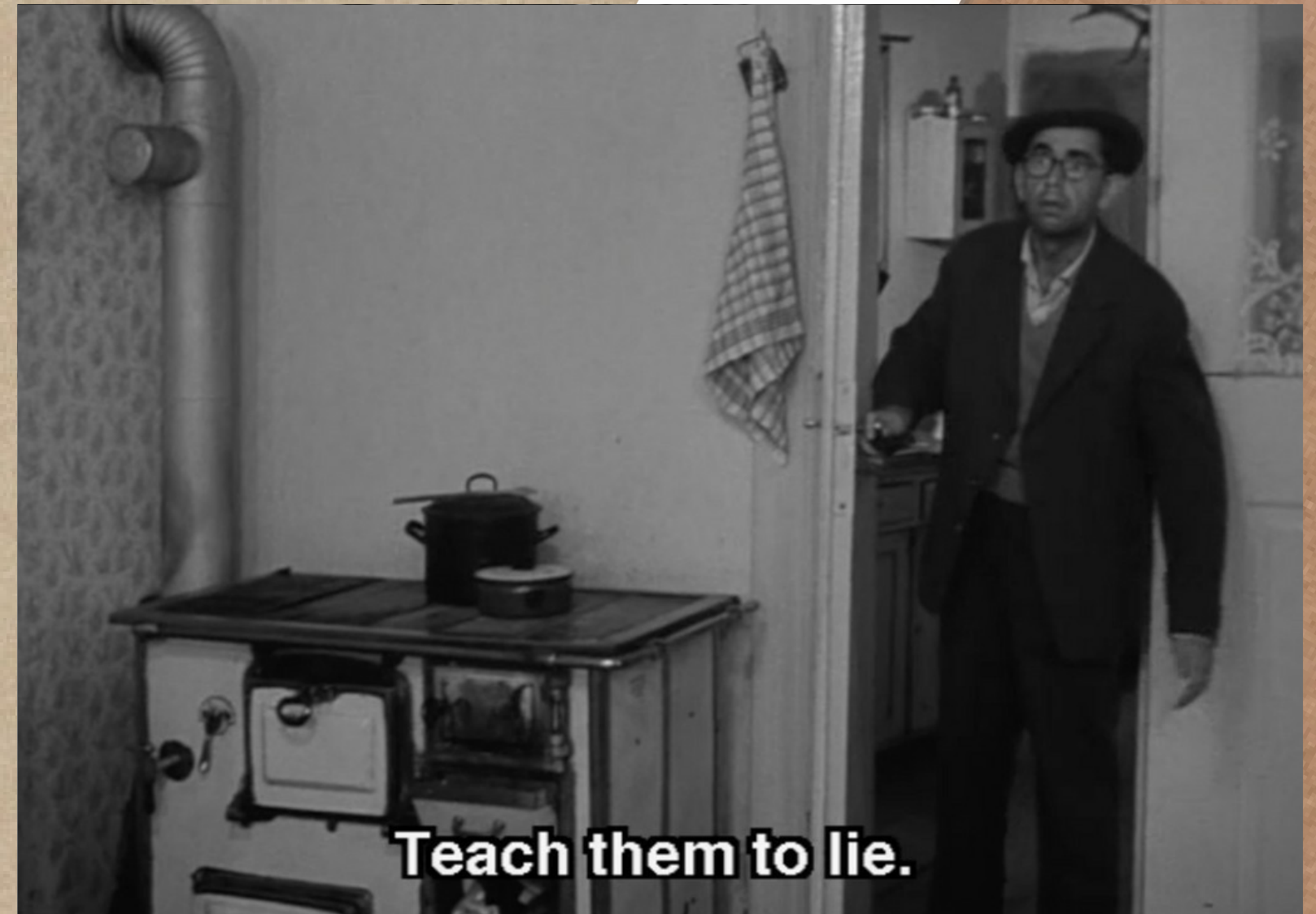
fear of losing control

- the regime's ideology aimed to control every aspect of people's life (from water tap to imaginative thoughts about the White Lady)
- control over the instalment of the water tap – started accusing each other
- disruption of the regime's goal of equal well-being distribution
- indignations were quelled by the charismatic speeches of the regime's chief

**We don't need any ghosts,
when we have national committees!**

believing in lies

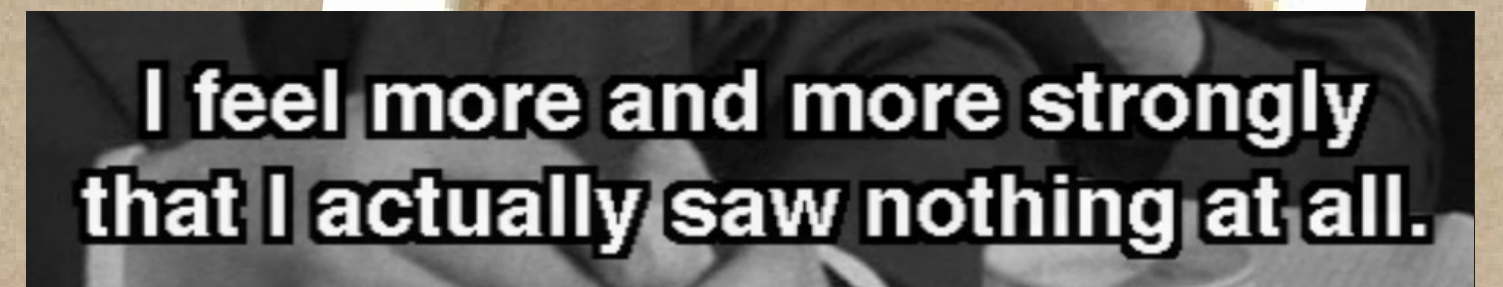
- truth-tellers, like Pupenec, are considered crazy and isolated; he is a protagonist in a movie
- Pupenec attempts to seek help from Prague authorities regarding the White Lady – gets more disappointment
- lies are everywhere – officials the White Lady's kindness for their own sake



But the facts...
- Facts can be idiots.

ignorance on all levels

- easier to ignore or pretend to ignore the truth
- we see (and do not see) what we want and what we find appropriate in terms of particular conformist environment
- Komonice's people unconcern about the whole absurdity
- no place for unpopular (and moreover negative) view



conlusions and reflections

The film's comedic elements are juxtaposed with the harsh reality of life under oppressive Eastern European regimes, which no freedom of speech, thought, and action

bad news: such regimes are still viable nowadays

