

A Streetcar Named Disregard

A film crew follows Senator Joseph Bernard around his "everyday life" to collect footage for a campaign video.

EXT. CABLE CAR STOP - DAY

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD (white, 40s) stands waiting for a cable car. Beside him stand a CAMERAMAN, MAKEUP ARTIST and DIRECTOR. Senator Joseph Bernard is dressed in an expensive suit, he has a small microphone clipped to his tie. A cable car turns the corner and heads toward the stop.

DIRECTOR

Here's one now. Let's start rolling.
Action!

The Makeup Artist blots concealer under Senator Joseph Bernard's eyes. Senator Joseph Bernard smiles and turns to the camera. The Director is scribbling notes into a clipboard.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

Hi, my name is Senator Joseph Bernard
and I'm running for re-election as
your senator.

The Director mouths "perfect." The cable car pulls up to the stop. Senator Joseph Bernard gets on the car, followed by the camera crew.

INT. CABLE CAR - DAY

The camera crew and Senator Joseph Bernard approach the back of the nearly full cable car. At the back sit a young black man, a middle-aged white man and an elderly Korean woman. The Director approaches the middle-aged white man.

DIRECTOR

I'm just going to move you for a
moment.

The Director pulls the man from his seat and gestures him towards the front of the bus, he looks disgruntled. Senator Joseph Bernard sits in the now empty spot, between the other two passengers.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

My America is a diverse America.

Senator Joseph Bernard flashes a smile at the camera and reaches his arms out behind the seats of the passengers on each side of him. As he does this, both passengers proceed to get up and exit the car. Several other passengers exit as well.

Senator Joseph Bernard stands up and walks towards the camera, the Cameraman walking backwards continuing to film him.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

The environment is one of my primary concerns as senator. That's why I take public transit.

Senator Joseph Bernard stops and stands beside a YOUNG MAN who is leaned up against the door. He smiles at the Young Man.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

And, it's a great way to meet new people.

The cable car comes to a stop. Senator Joseph Bernard opens the door in an attempt to let the Young Man out. He looks at Senator Joseph Bernard awkwardly and steps out of the car. As it pulls away we hear the Young Man from a distance.

YOUNG MAN

Uh, this isn't my stop.

The cable car continues to go forward. They are the only ones left in the car. The Director gestures to the cameraman to stop filming.

DIRECTOR

That's great. Let's stop there so I can figure out where the hell we're going.

The Makeup Artist pulls out her phone.

MAKEUP ARTIST

We're coming up to Golden Gate Park in a few stops. I think we should get off here.

The Director pauses for a moment.

DIRECTOR

Actually, let's keep going. I think I can make this work.

CUT TO:

ANGLE OUT of the cable car window as it moves down the street. As the car continues, the houses on the street deteriorate in quality. Gradually, the freshly painted, well-maintained homes DISSOLVE into homes with broken windows and collapsed roofs.

ZOOM OUT to Senator Joseph Bernard looking at the camera, the houses passing by behind him.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD
Community safety is of the utmost
importance, and that's why I plan to
increase policing in low-income areas.

Senator Joseph Bernard looks out the window with a solemn expression.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD (CONT'D)
These neighbourhoods house important
members of our community. I want to
see that those homes, and the people
inside them, are protected.

The Director walks over to Senator Joseph Bernard and shows him the clipboard.

DIRECTOR
Let's try this.

Senator Joseph Bernard nods, the Director steps away.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD
As Senator, I stand up for what I
believe in. And what I believe in is
keeping people safe.

DIRECTOR
(looking at her clipboard)
Let's do it again, but this time when
you say stand up, let's have you
actually stand up. Mark, you'll have
to zoom out for that shot.

The Cameraman gives a thumbs up.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD
Got it. We ready?

DIRECTOR

Go for it.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

As Senator, I stand up for what I believe in. And what I believe in is keeping people safe.

As Senator Joseph Bernard stands, the cable car comes to a stop. In the background, two young black men sit on the curb, their wrists handcuffed behind them and a police officer standing over them.

EXT. GOLDEN GATE PARK - DAY

Senator Joseph Bernard stands behind a collapsable table handing out plastic bags filled with groceries. The film crew stands a couple of paces back, the Cameraman is filming.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

I want to create a cleaner, safer, healthier community, but I need your help.

An ELDERLY MAN in tattered clothing approaches the table. Senator Joseph Bernard hands him a grocery bag.

ELDERLY MAN

Thank you.

Senator Joseph Bernard smiles at the man and shakes his hand.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

(looking at the camera)

No, thank you.

The Elderly Man starts to walk away. Senator Joseph Bernard steps out from behind the table.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD (CONT'D)

On November 3rd, Vote for me, Senator Joseph Be-

The Elderly Man, now standing a few steps away, interrupts. He is looking inside the grocery bag.

ELDERLY MAN

Cans? I don't have a can opener.

Senator Joseph Bernard stands there, mystified. The Elderly Man pulls a carton of eggs out of the grocery bag.

ELDERLY MAN (CONT'D)

And what am I supposed to do with a
dozen uncooked eggs?

Senator Bernard shrugs at the Elderly Man.

CLOSE ON Senator Joseph Bernard's feet as the grocery bag is
tossed in front of him.

Senator Joseph Bernard looks down at the grocery bag, then up
at the camera. He crosses his arms and smiles. He stays in
this pose for a moment until an egg hits him square in the
chest. The film crew stands there in shock.

DIRECTOR

(to Makeup Artist)

Get Senator Joseph Bernard a wet wipe,
now.

Senator Joseph Bernard wipes the egg off his shirt. He shakes
his hands.

SENATOR JOSEPH BERNARD

Someone call a car.

FADE TO BLACK