

NEIGHBORS 2: SORORITY RISING (2016)

- Nick Stoller directed
- Rate R for crude sexual content including brief graphic nudity, language throughout, drug use and teen partying
- 35 million dollar budget (70 mil total)
- 92 minutes

QUICK THOUGHTS

- Phil Svitek
- Demetri Panos
- Jeff Graham

DEVELOPMENT

- By early February 2015, a sequel to *Neighbors* was in development, with [Nicholas Stoller](#) set to return to direct
- [Andrew J. Cohen](#) and [Brendan O'Brien](#) returned to write the film, along with Stoller, [Seth Rogen](#), and Evan Goldberg
- The film was initially scheduled to begin [principal photography](#) in mid-2015
- In July 2015 title was revealed to be *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*

WRITING

- Andrew Jay Cohen
 - Did a video short with James Franco
 - Wrote *Neighbors* and *Mike & Dave Need Wedding Dates*
- Brendan O'Brien
 - Did a video short with James Franco
 - Wrote *Neighbors* and *Mike & Dave Need Wedding Dates*
- Nick Stoller (also directed)
- Evan Goldberg & Seth Rogen
 - Evan Goldberg is a Canadian director, screenwriter and producer. Goldberg is known for his work on *Superbad*, *Knocked Up*, *Pineapple Express*, *Funny People*, *The Green Hornet*, *50/50*, *Goon*, *The Watch*, *This is the End*, *Neighbors*, *The Interview* and *The Night Before*. Goldberg works alongside longtime partner, Seth Rogen. The duo directed *This is the End* and *The Interview* as well as the upcoming AMC series, *Preacher*, and Hulu show, *Future Man*. Goldberg and Rogen also produced the soon-to-be released, *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* and *Sausage Party*
- Goldberg told *USA Today* that he read a huge number of [feminist essays](#)
- Stoller sent the script to Lena Dunham, as he told [Screencrush](#), "just to make sure we weren't accidentally doing anything that was offensive."
- Brought in two female comedy writers, [Amanda Lund](#) and [Maria Blasucci](#), to punch up jokes on set
 - Yeah, we had two writers on set who were both women comedy writers, Amanda Lund and Maria Blasucci, just to make sure we weren't accidentally writing guy dialogue for women. I spent a lot of time working with Chloe, Keirseley Clemons, and Beanie Feldstein to make sure – like I always interview everyone [in] kind of a long interview process before we start shooting just to make sure everything's in the characters' voices. And we sent it to some writers who are women that we

really respect. I sent it to Lena Dunham because she knows more about feminism than maybe anyone on the planet, just to make sure we weren't accidentally doing anything that was offensive. And she also sent us jokes and stuff, so that was really cool of her. And I know Seth and Evan [Goldberg] sent it to some women directors. So we were very careful to make sure we weren't accidentally doing anything wrong. But then honestly it ends up being, I think like the first movie, like Zac's story, ultimately emotionally pretty gender-neutral. It's just about a person who's scared to graduate from college, and that could relate to women or men.

- “Every iteration of this script existed at some point. There was a version where another frat moved in. There was a version where the sorority was there and then got kicked out, and then a frat took over and it was even worse. We flirted with a version where it was an older couple, a swinger couple. Terrible ideas! They're not in the movie for a reason. We had a version of the movie that we table-read with, that was basically [Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne] trying to prevent the first movie from happening, trying to placate the sorority. Which made it boring, because nothing's happening, they're never fighting.”
- Nick: “Yeah, it very quickly kind of organically grew from the sorority plot. We wanted it to be about a sorority; it just made sense for the sequel. And I don't like to make – none of my movies have villains in them. I don't think villains are interesting in comedies, so it made sense that it would be about a group of women trying to figure out how to make a sorority. And then we learned about the rule, that sororities aren't allowed to throw parties, which seemed completely insane to us. It kinda of naturally led us towards this kind of feminist plot.”

STORY/CAST

- SEQUEL VS ORIGINAL
- FUNNIEST MOMENTS
- THEMES
 - Movies and television like “Animal House” and “Blue Mountain State” celebrate and enable crude behavior from college kids, especially men. The lesson in “Neighbors 2”— encouraging students to pause and think for a second about this culture — is by contrast refreshing, sensible and important.
 - Growing up
- SWITCH OF TEDDY
- FEMINIST IDEOLOGY
 - The problem with all this is that while it may cause you to nod your head in agreement occasionally, you never really feel emotionally connected to these characters, and it's hard to ignore that a lot of the time they're oversimplifying things. Instead of being flawed but kick-ass women, they still each feel like rough drafts of Feminism 101 textbooks. Too often they're forced to complain or rant about things they deem sexist without really getting to participate in the jokes. At one point, the women tell Teddy (Zac Efron) that his frat's ho-themed parties (such as “CEOs and corporate hos”) were offensive. It's presented as a teaching moment, but it doesn't feel natural; the women feel like mouthpieces for an agenda, not intelligent, fleshed-out characters. Why do none of them even mention that the obvious punch line should be “C-E-hos” and bankers? Instead of letting the women riff and have fun while delivering their message, they're too

often forced to exist as signposts for the audience (or our male characters) to “learn something” from.

- Chloe Grace Moretz: Yeah, that was a really big, important issue for me. The idea of making a sorority movie without some sort of modern environment aspect to it. It really felt like something that should be made. We’re the same age, so it was very pertinent.
- In July 2015, [Chloë Grace Moretz](#) joined the cast
- On August 4, 2015, it was confirmed that [Carla Gallo](#) and [Ike Barinholtz](#) would be returning for the sequel
- On August 7, 2015, [Beanie Feldstein](#) and [Kiersey Clemons](#) were added to the cast to play Moretz's character's sorority sisters
- On August 13, 2015, *The Hollywood Reporter* confirmed that [Dave Franco](#) would return for the sequel
- [Selena Gomez](#) was seen filming on set via an instagram photo
- [Lisa Kudrow](#) was also spotted filming, along with other cast
- By September 24, 2015, [Billy Eichner](#) had joined the cast of the film
- The same month, it was revealed that [Hannibal Buress](#) and [Jerrod Carmichael](#) had been cast in the film, reprising their roles from the first film
- On November 18, 2015, it was announced that [Cameron Dallas](#) had joined the cast, although his scenes were later cut
- In December 2015, it was revealed that [Abbi Jacobson](#) had also joined the cast, followed by [Christopher Mintz-Plasse](#), [Liz Cackowski](#), and [Brian Huskey](#), all reprising their roles from the first film
- [Seth Rogen](#) as Mac Radner
 - Third film Rose Byrne and Seth Rogen have been in together. First being 'Neighbors' then 'The Something' and now 'Neighbors 2'
 - Trademarks are:
 - Curly hair
 - Deep baritone voice
 - Often plays an unkempt manchild
 - Infectious, distinctive laugh
 - Often plays a stoner
 - Chloe Grace Moretz: I think he’s one of the true comedy geniuses of our generation. I kind of grew up watching a lot of his movies. It felt like it was good idea if, as I started to go into comedy, it was through him.
- [Rose Byrne](#) as Kelly Radner, Mac's wife
 - [Rose Byrne](#) was actually pregnant with her son Rocco when filming this movie
 - The 3rd time the director Nicholas Stoller and Rose Bryne have collaborated with each other. The 1st time was 'Get Him To The Greek' then 'Neighbors' and now 'Neighbors 2'
 - Rose Byrne: No. I think it was challenging to find the idea. Nick [Stoller] really wants to make good movies. He’s not going to do something if he thinks it’s not going to work. I think we joked about it. No one knew how it was going to do. I remember when he first talked about it and I thought, “That’s never going to happen.”
 - CS: Is there something that you do as a warm up before the cameras roll?

- Rose Byrne: We definitely have rehearsal. Nick really believes in that. We sit around and read the script and talk about it. We did that on both films. It's nice.
- Rose Byrne: Nick got in touch and said, "We're thinking of trying to do a sequel, but we're only really interested if we can get the story right. Are you interested?" I said, "Absolutely." I loved doing the first one. I love working with Nick and Seth [Rogen]. We did have to find the right story, though. The first one was such a success and you don't want to do a sequel unless you think it's going to be as good and as funny. They are incredibly challenging, sequels. The story took a while and he pitched me a few different versions over a few months. Then they arrived at this idea for a sorority and Chloe [Grace Moretz] signed on. I said, "I would like to do that."
- She landed her first role in a movie, [Dallas Doll](#) (1994), when she was 15 years old
- Her first experience on a big-budget movie came when she played handmaiden, Dormé, to [Natalie Portman](#), Padmé Amidala, in [Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones](#)(2002)
- She studied drama at Sydney's Australian Theatre for Young People and later at David Mamet Acting School, in New York
- Did her own singing in [Get Him to the Greek](#) (2010)
- "I'm probably in that next group of actors they call if Scarlett (Johansson) or Keira (Knightley) turns down a part. But I feel really lucky. To be a working actor is pretty incredible, because 99 per cent of actors are out of work. I know a lot of talented people who are better actors than me but haven't had a break. It's all down to timing and luck."
- Known for the new X Men films, Neighbors, Insidious, 28 Weeks Later, Spy
- [Zac Efron](#) as Teddy Sanders, the former president of Delta Psi Beta and the Radners' enemy-turned-ally
 - This is the third time Zac Efron and Dave Franco have collaborated together, following [Charlie St. Cloud](#) (2010) and [Neighbors](#) (2014)
 - Efron came to fame for starring in the Disney Channel original film [High School Musical](#)(2006), for which he won the Teen Choice Award for Breakout Star. He returned to the role of Troy Bolton in [High School Musical 2](#) (2007), which broke cable TV records with 17.5 million viewers
 - Is good friends with his idol [Leonardo DiCaprio](#)
 - [on the Neighbors poster] Two Jewish last names, right next to [each other], Rogen, Efron
 - Know for High School Musical, 17 Again, Neighbors, That Awkward Moment, Lucky One, We Are Your Friends, Dirty Grandpa
 - Soon to be in Baywatch
- [Chloë Grace Moretz](#) as Shelby, the leader and founder of Kappa Nu
 - Chloe Grace Moretz announced via Twitter her involvement in the movie
 - Her first movie role was as Molly in [Heart of the Beholder](#) (2005), a story about a family that opened the first video rental store in 1980. This was followed by a small role in [Family Plan](#) (2005) as Young Charlie. After that, however, came Chloe's biggest role, and the one that made her famous: [The Amityville Horror](#) (2005)

- Frequently played dark characters in R rated movies during her child and teenage career
- Known for her versatility in film roles despite her young age
- She loves sports including gymnastics, football, ice hockey, basketball and ballet. She also loves to swim and play with her dogs
- She loves comedy movies, especially the [Legally Blonde](#) (2001) movies
- “My mom has always said that if I get a big head, she'll take me out of this business as quickly as I got into it.”
- “I hope to make acting my career for the rest of my life, if I can. If acting doesn't work out I'd love to produce, direct, or write. I just want to stay in this business. That would be my number one thing. I always want to be an actress.”
- “In my age range, there's not many people to date... maybe [Ryan Gosling](#)... we could just drive around.”
- Known for Kick Ass, Hugo, Equalizer, Muppets Most Wanted
- “Basically, I found out that Seth Rogen and the boys were interested in working with me. I went to Point Grey and they pitched me the idea for “Sorority Rising.” I was interested and they started to write the script. I gave them a bunch of input. It kind of just went from there.”
- Chloe Grace Moretz: Oh yeah. Most of the scenes that we started with were just outlines of the story. We would jump in from there and see what we could make up. Then it was all about, “How can we make this funnier?” Most of what you see in the movie is improv.
- Moretz let the details of what the scene entailed slip on a recent episode of The Talk, and it sounds like quite the time. “It was an anti-sex scene because my clothes stayed on. It was only him that was completely undressed. It was pretty raunchy, pretty wild,” the actress said.
 - The scene was ultimately cut because “it just didn't fit in in the right way, the way we wanted it to.” Again, neither Shelby nor her friends' story lines deal with finding love or having sex—save for a brief glimpse of a “Shelby loses her virginity party,” and since we never see who her partner is, perhaps it's Teddy, Efron's character—so this scene would have detracted from the film's main focus: female friendship.
- [Ike Barinholtz](#) as Jimmy Blevins, Mac's colleague and best friend
 - He spent two years in Amsterdam with the famed comedy troupe, "Boom Chicago", along with [Jordan Peele](#), [Josh Meyers](#) and [Nicole Parker](#)
 - Has performed with the Improv Olympic, Annoyance Theatre, Boom Chicago, and Second City
 - Started his career as a busboy in L.A
 - Had planned on becoming a politician, but decided to be a comedian
 - Known for MADtv, Sisters, Neighbors, Mindy Project
 - In upcoming Suicide Squad
- [Carla Gallo](#) as Paula Faldt, Jimmy's remarried wife
- [Kiersey Clemons](#) as Beth, a member and co-founder of Kappa Nu
 - You're not going to get movies like that off a tape. They want to see you improvise and be loose, and a tape feels static. I knew I was right for it and it was in my wheelhouse. I really had my eye in the prize. There were only two girls in the sorority at that point, so I was auditioning for Kiersey's character, Beth. wo weeks later, I was babysitting and I got the call from my manager, but it was like,

“Can’t talk, don’t care what you have to say, I just put a 1-year-old to sleep!” Then they told me I booked the role of Nora, so I start flipping through the pages, but there was no Nora in the script! I guess they were reworking the script and changing the dynamic of the sorority a bit. I did the table read two days later and fortunately, Nora was in there.

- [Beanie Feldstein](#) as Nora, a member and co-founder of Kappa Nu
- [Dave Franco](#) as Pete Regazolli, the former vice-president of Delta Psi Beta and Teddy's best friend
 - This is the fourth film Dave Franco and Christopher Mintz-Plasse have been in together, following *Superbad* (2007), *Fright Night* (2011) and *Neighbors* (2014). They have also collaborated on multiple *Funny or Die* videos together
- [Christopher Mintz-Plasse](#) as Scoonie, a former member of Delta Psi Beta
 - This is the fourth film Chloë Grace Moretz and Christopher Mintz-Plasse have appeared in together, following *Kick-Ass* (2010) and *Kick-Ass 2* (2013) as well as *Movie 43* (2013)
- [Jerrod Carmichael](#) as Garf, a former member of Delta Psi Beta
- [Lisa Kudrow](#) as Dean Carol Gladstone, the university dean
- [Hannibal Buress](#) as Officer Watkins, a local policeman
- John Early as Darren, Pete's boyfriend
- [Selena Gomez](#) as Phi Lambda President
- [Kelsey Grammer](#) as Shelby's father
- [Brian Huskey](#) as Bill Wazowkowski, Mac's boss
- [Clara Mamet](#) as Maranda, a member of Kappa Nu
- [Nora Lum](#) as Christine, a member of Kappa Nu
- Elise and Zoey Vergas as Stella Radner, Mac and Kelly's first daughter
- [Liz Cackowski](#) as Wendy the Realtor, Mac and Kelly's real estate agent
- [Billy Eichner](#) as Oliver Studebaker, the real estate agent for Kappa Nu
- [Abbi Jacobson](#) as Jessica Baiers, part of a couple who are buying Mac and Kelly's house
- [Sam Richardson](#) as Eric Baiers, part of a couple who are buying Mac and Kelly's house
- [Kyle Mooney](#) as R.A. of the college dorm
- [Ciara Bravo](#) as Sorority Girl

EASTER EGGS / TRIVIA

- The Theatrical Release poster for this movie is a parody of another movie coming out in 2016, [Captain America: Civil War](#) (2016)
- Seth Rogen's first live-action sequel
- Rose Byrne says to her daughter 'do you see things that I don't' this is a reference to her character in the *Insidious* films
- [Lena Dunham](#) had filmed a cameo as Jeanna D'Arc, the Roman Catholic Saint, but it was cut from the final film
- LL Cool J's role (Beth's father) can be seen in second red band trailer, but his role did not end up in the final cut

DIRECTING

- Nicholas Stoller is an English-American screenwriter and director

- Known best for directing the 2008 comedy *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, and writing/directing its 2010 spin-off/sequel, *Get Him to the Greek*
- Also wrote *The Muppets* and directed the Seth Rogen comedy, *Neighbors*
- Frequent creative partner of Jason Segel
- Attended Harvard University
- Chloe Grace Moretz: We kind of went through a whole process, figuring out what I wanted to portray. I wanted to be the kind of young woman that we haven't seen in cinema before. To be that raunchy and that wild. It kind of came into form with her solidarity with the other girls. Individually, it was about Shelby figuring herself out and figuring the world out. Finding her place in society. When you're young, you have a lot of things that you're passionate about. There's still a lot of different ways that you can go about things. In college, you can find that right form of expression if you put your mind to it.

PRODUCTION/CINEMATOGRAPHY

- **Principal photography** began on August 31, 2015, in [Dunwoody, Georgia](#), and ended on October 29, 2015
- In March 2016, Moretz was spotted filming reshoots in Los Angeles
- Brandon Trost shot it
 - He is known for his work on [This Is the End](#) (2013), [Neighbors](#) (2014) and [The Interview](#) (2014)
- With much of *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* again taking place between Mac and Kelly's home and the Kappa Nu house, the production team geared up returning to the scene of the crime...sort of. While the first film was lensed entirely in L.A. with two existing neighboring houses, the majority of filming this go-around took place between the same two neighboring houses in Atlanta, Georgia. "It was interesting to produce a movie that is set in the same place, without filming it in the same place," notes Weaver. "So we've had to be creative with our choices."
- Production began in August 2015 and took place over a nine-week period with Atlanta filling in for Los Angeles filling in for the fictitious Ardendale. Production designer Theresa Guleserian and her team were put to the task of re-creating both houses entirely on stage. "The original interiors were not in neighboring homes, so the challenge was to find a way to put in the interiors and exteriors together so the characters could interact. We had to redesign the schematics of the houses so that they could see in each other's windows," explains Guleserian.
- The process took place over several months of construction and utilized three stages to build the various settings in and around both houses. One stage housed the side exteriors and driveway between the houses—and almost the entire first floor of Mac and Kelly's home. The second stage housed the exterior and full first floor of the Kappa Nu house, where the girls host their epic parties and sorority meetings. Finally, the third stage held the second-floor rooms of both homes: Mac and Kelly's room, Stella's room and Shelby's room at Kappa Nu.
- For continuity purposes, the art department was required to re-create and replicate even the smallest of details on the stage—down to matching the worn bricks, aged paint and driveway cracks. "We shot the bulk of the schedule on stage, which influenced the level of commitment required for the houses," explains the production designer. "The trees were sourced to match the bark color, shape, texture, and fullness—since we would be filming a small portion of the film at the actual exterior location.

- At the end of the schedule, the company packed up everything and headed to Los Angeles for three days of shooting at the houses used in the first film. That provided the shots needed for editor Zene Baker to create seamless edits on screen.
- Both houses had several “modes” throughout the filming process (for sale/empty mode, party mode, ransacked mode, rush mode) that kept the art department busy with constant changeovers. The interior of the old Delta Psi house was transformed into a more feminine space, a far cry from the abundance of phallic symbols and first-to-second floor bongs found when inhabited by the frat.
 - “We set out to feminize the house and tried to imagine how these young women with limited resources would decorate with what they might think is cool,” says Guleserian. The result? Less penis, more glittery mobiles, vintage furniture and a bunny wall. And echoing Delta Psi’s party wall of fame is Kappa Nu’s shrine to powerful women like Serena Williams, Rhonda Rousey and silent actress Theda Bara. “We called it the bad-bitch wall,” laughs Guleserian.
- The largest sequence orchestrated in the Neighbors universe thus far takes place at one of Ardentale’s Braxton University’s tailgate events. To raise the rent required to keep their sorority house, the Kappa Nu girls cleverly ratted out all the local weed dealers and are selling the only weed available in the area at the school’s tailgate—naturally, at inflated prices. Mac, Kelly, Teddy, Jimmy and Paula set out to steal the weed and shut them down, resulting in an extensive foot chase sequence through the raucous crowds of inebriated college revelers.

EDITING/VFX

- During post-production, [Lena Dunham](#), [LL Cool J](#), and [Cameron Dallas](#)'s scenes were all cut from the film
- Zene Baker edited
 - This Is the End, 50/50, Neighbors, The Interview
- Peck Prior edited
 - Trainwreck, Pixels, Hot Chick, I Still Know What You Did Last Summer
- Michael A. Webber edited
 - Night Before, Greek, This Is The End, 50/50
- Jokes that were cut
 - Seth Rogen getting propelled across his living room by a jerry-rigged airbag
 - Hannibal Buress screaming while riding around in a tank
 - A sorority girl flicking off Rogen’s character in slow-mo as she flies through the air

SOUND/MUSIC

- Michael Andrews composed
- Known for Daddy’s Home, New Girl, Dirty Grandpa, Sex Tape, Neighbors, Funny People

PROMOTION

- On February 6, 2015, [Universal Pictures](#) scheduled the film for release on May 13, 2016
- However, on July 27, 2015, the film was moved back a week to May 20, 2016
- Paul Fieg on jokes in trailer NOT in movie:
 - “I have no problem with putting stuff in the trailers and the TV spots that aren’t in the movie because I know whatever we put in the movie is gonna be funnier than those jokes, and we have all these extra funny things,” he told the [Huffington](#)

[Post](#). "And when you go to the movie, then it's this great surprise, like, 'Oh, hurray, I didn't expect that.'"

BOX OFFICE

- As of May 22, 2016, *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* has grossed \$21.8 million in North America and \$30 million in other territories for a worldwide total of \$51.8 million, against a budget of \$35 million
- In North America, *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* opened on May 20, 2016, alongside [The Angry Birds Movie](#) and [The Nice Guys](#), and was projected to gross \$35–40 million from 3,384 theaters in its opening weekend
- The film grossed \$1.7 million during its Thursday night previews (lower than the original's \$2.5 million) and \$8.7 million on its first day
- In its opening weekend the film grossed \$21.8 million, less than half both the previous film's opening (\$49 million) and projections, and finished third at the box office behind [The Angry Birds Movie](#) (\$39 million) and [Captain America: Civil War](#) (\$33.1 million)
- Internationally, where it is known as *Bad Neighbours 2*, the film will be released in a total of 56 countries
- It was released in 16 markets on May 6, 2016, where it earned \$8 million in its opening weekend
- The United Kingdom and Ireland posted the top opening for the film with \$2.4 million, followed by Australia with \$1.8 million and \$1.5 million in Germany

RECEPTION

- *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* has received generally positive reviews from critics
- On [Rotten Tomatoes](#), the film has a rating of 62%, based on 138 reviews, with an average rating of 5.7/10
- The site's critical consensus reads, "*Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising* may not be strictly necessary, but it still wrings a surprising amount of humor from a recycled premise with a distaff twist."
- On [Metacritic](#), the film has a score of 58 out of 100, based on 38 critics, indicating "mixed or average reviews"
- Audiences polled by [CinemaScore](#) gave the film an average grade of "B" on an A+ to F scale, the same grade earned by its predecessor
- Mike Ryan of [Uproxx](#) gave the film a positive review, writing, "In a world in which so many comedy sequels fail, here comes a comedy sequel that isn't just 'as good as the first movie,' it's even better."
- [The Guardian](#) awarded it two stars out of five, saying, "This pretty routine follow-up has some decent material and amiable bad taste, heavily diluted with gallons of very ordinary sequel product: more of the same."
- The Wrap's 5 reasons the movie failed
 - **1. Seth Rogen Continues His Slump**
 - His box office track record since "Neighbors" in 2014 has been spottier. The performance of that December's "The Interview" carries a big asterisk given that the release was disrupted by the highly publicized threats from North Korean dictator Kim Jong-Un.
 - **2. Russell Crowe and Ryan Gosling Were Worthy Adversaries**

- “The first film benefited from having a lot less competition from new movies in its opening weekend than the sequel does,” Rotten Tomatoes editor-in-chief Matt Atchity told TheWrap.
- **3. The Movie Wasn’t Immune to Negative Reviews**
 - “The Nice Guys,” which boasted a glowing 90 percent Rotten Tomatoes score, exceeded analysts expectations with an \$11.3 million opening.
 - So all the pans that drove “Neighbors 2” to 61 percent on Rotten Tomatoes may have taken a bigger toll than anticipated. ““The Nice Guys’ has really been marketed as a comedy,” Atchity said. “So you could say that the two movies split the audience that was looking for adult comedy this weekend.”
- **4. Chloë Grace Moretz Isn’t (Yet) a Box Office Draw**
 - The talented 19-year-old was promoted heavily in the marketing of the movie as one of the main new elements of the sequel.
 - But she’s coming off the poor box office performances of two young adult adaptations in which she was the lead, “The 5th Wave” and “If I Stay.” She has yet to demonstrate her bankability.
- **5. Comedy Sequels Are Becoming More Challenging**
 - “Even the most inspired comedy sequels have a tough go at the box office,” Exhibitor Relations senior analyst Jeff Bock said. “Just look at ‘Zoolander 2’ and ‘Ted 2,’ most recently.”
 - Bock points to an ethereal X factor that comedies must have in order to succeed. “The problem is, comedy is a delicate balance of pop culture zeitgeist and chemistry. Sometimes that ship sails away quickly,” he said, arguing that “Neighbors 2” simply didn’t have a fresh enough hook to compel audiences to buy tickets.
 - “The comedy genre, perhaps more than any other, relies on broad, clever concepts, and audiences inevitably respond to comedies that seem fresh and inventive. That’s very difficult to do with comedy sequels, which is why most comedy franchises stall out before they become a trilogy.”
 - Dergarabedian added, “Originality, freshness and shock value of first installments are always tough to replicate.”

SEQUEL

- Nothing official yet

FINAL THOUGHTS