Race:

West Side Story: As I watched the film, I noticed many stereotypes on not just the Puerto Rican gang, the Sharks, but the Polish gang, the Jets as well. The Puerto Rican actresses faked their accents, and did a poor job at it too, and most of the members of the Jets had blonde hair.

Negron-Muntaner: Negron-Muntaner explains how they used "brown-face" in the film with Bernardo, who was played by a white actor. She also explained how their accents were very poorly presented that it was almost as if the actors and actresses were mocking Puerto Ricans.

NY Times: An article titled, "Meany Berates Jeweler's Union: Orders Action by Monday to End Exploitation of Puerto Ricans, discusses how Puerto Ricans were being abused in the work place.

RQ: Did people look down on Puerto Ricans even more after West Side Story premiered?