



# More Than Puppy Love 2: A Better Film Than Winter's Bone?

Published on *Show-Me Institute* (<https://showmeinstitute.org>)



By: Audrey Spalding

On Tuesday, [I spoke with Mark Reardon on KMOX about Missouri's film tax credit program](#). Though he agreed with me that it is pretty indefensible for taxpayers to subsidize [hotel stays and large living allowances for well-paid actors and directors](#), Mark pointed to critically-acclaimed films that have received the credit (*Winter's Bone* and *Up in the Air*) as examples of success.

Sure, [Winter's Bone received \\$260,000 under Missouri's film tax credit program](#). And the film did receive [great reviews](#). But the state actually paid *more* to the film *More Than Puppy Love 2*, the (apparent) sequel to *More Than Puppy Love*, a 2002 film that IMDB users panned. One wrote that "This just might be the worst movie ever made."

I do not know what reviewers said about *More Than Puppy Love 2*, because I could not find any references to it. But I do know that [state taxpayers paid more than \\$285,000 to have that movie made here in Missouri](#). I wonder if the puppy used in the film was counted as one of the "jobs" associated with the production of *More Than Puppy Love 2*. [There have been more dubious job claims made when justifying film tax credits](#).

If you love film, or anything else creative, the *last* thing you should want is for it to receive taxpayer funding. Some of the [best works of art](#), [films](#), and [books](#) are controversial — as they should be. [Censorship](#) and the funding of saccharine works begins when taxpayer

dollars allow politicians and bureaucrats to get involved in deciding what is, [and what is not, art](#) .

## About the Author



*Audrey Spalding*

## Read Online

<https://showmeinstitute.org/blog/subsidies/more-puppy-love-2-better-film-winters-bone#comment-0>

## Links

[1] <https://showmeinstitute.org/blog/subsidies/more-puppy-love-2-better-film-winters-bone>

[2] <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2012/06/12/mark-reardon-senator-claire-mccaskill-missouri-film-tax-credits/>

[3] <https://showmeinstitute.org/2012/06/sorry-film-directors-taxpayers-should-not-have-to-pay-for-your-luxury-hotel-rooms.html>

[4] <http://mapyourtaxes.mo.gov/MAP/TaxCredits/Customer/CustomerSearchResults.aspx?custsearch=winter's&year=2009>

[5] [http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/10012136-winters\\_bone/](http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/10012136-winters_bone/)

[6] <http://mapyourtaxes.mo.gov/MAP/TaxCredits/Customer/CustomerSearchResults.aspx?custsearch=more+than+puppy&year=2006>

[7] <http://taxfoundation.org/article/testimony-film-tax-incentives-oklahoma-task-force-state-tax-credits-and-economic-incentives>

[8] <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/03/magazine/03Style-skull-t.html>

[9] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guernica\\_\(painting\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guernica_(painting))

[10] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fountain\\_%28Duchamp%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fountain_%28Duchamp%29)

[11] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A\\_Clockwork\\_Orange\\_\(film\)#Responses\\_and\\_controversy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Clockwork_Orange_(film)#Responses_and_controversy)

[12] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fahrenheit\\_451](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fahrenheit_451)

[13] <http://www.npr.org/blogs/itsallpolitics/2010/12/01/131736255/liberal-group-hits-house-gop-leaders-for-art-censorship>

[14] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piss\\_Christ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piss_Christ)

## Mission Statement

Advancing liberty with responsibility by promoting market solutions for Missouri public policy.

## Show-Me Institute

5297 Washington Place  
Saint Louis, MO 63108  
Phone: (314) 454-0647

3645 Troost Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64109  
Phone: (816) 287-0370

Fax: (314) 454-0667

Email: [info@showmeinstitute.org](mailto:info@showmeinstitute.org)

## **Support Our Work**

The Show-Me Institute is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Make your tax deductible contribution today: <http://ShowMeInstitute.org/donate>