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COLLEGE: LAW

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MATRICULATION NUMBER: 19/LAW01/176

ASSIGNMENT: CRITICALLY EXAMINE THE MOVIE “MISS EVERS’ BOYS”

 ASSIGNMENT

The film tells the story of the Tuskegee experiment, a U.S Federal Government secret medical experiment on poor African American men between the years 1932-1972. The experiment was designed to study the effects of untreated syphilis. The story is told from the perspective of the small town nurse, Eunice Evers who is well aware of the lack of treatment and takes it upon herself to assist and console the involved men, some of whom are her close friends. The study selected 412 men infected with the disease and promised then free medical treatment for what they claimed to be “bad blood” the movie shows Miss Evers as suggesting the term as a strategy to withhold information about syphilis from the men. The movie uncovered the true story of the U.S Government’s 1932 Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, in which a group of black test subjects were allowed to die, despite the cure having been developed.

The movie is based on a real life incident. Four hundred and twelve men infected with the disease were selected for the study that faked long term treatment while instead of being treated, they were being studied. The goal of the study was to see if blacks reacted similar to the whites to the effects of the syphilis disease. At the end of the movie, during investigation, only one hundred and twenty seven out of the original four hundred and twelve participants had not died of the disease. This shows that the blacks were used as human sacrifices for the government experiment. Miss Evers compares her struggles with her ethical and moral beliefs and the unethical issues presented in the study as climbing a series of mountains. Her challenge as presented in the film depicted her as a victim