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AN INCISIVE INTERROGATION OF SOLOMON A. EDEBORE'S
GOOD MORNING, SODOM, UNDERSCORING AT LEAST FIVE
UNDERLYING THEMATIC THRUSTS THE DRAMA ENGAGES

1. THE THEME OF SOCIAL INFLUENCE: The story tells the theme of social influence or peer pressure because Demola fell into peer pressure and ended up badly. Peer pressure or influence is when you do something because you want to feel accepted and valued by your friends. Peer influence can be positive or negative but in the case of the play it was negative, but is it safe to say that Demola would not have turned out the way he did without negative peer influence because the story points out how persistent he was to get Keziah.
2. THE THEME OF BETRAYAL: Betrayal is the violation of a person's trust or confidence, of a moral standard. Betrayal was seen in the play when Demola betrays Keziah by inviting her to his house under the impression of doing an assignment but instead used the opportunity to drug and rape her. The little friendship and trust that was building up between them got shattered and destroyed.
3. THE THEME OF VICTIMIZATION: A major theme of the play is the theme of victimization because Keziah and Demola were both victims, Keziah a victim of sexual harassment and Demola being a victim of peer influence, Keziah was also a victim of parental negligence. Stella was a victim of sexual harassment too. Victimization was a major theme of the play because it studies the consequences and effects of these major vices and crimes. It sheds light on the characters and how they deal with the experience. It has served its purpose in the play which is to install adequate knowledge about how anyone can be a victim of unfortunate events.
4. THEME OF LOVE: Love is shown in the play in many ways, Love of Keziah's parents towards her, love Stella had for God, could we say the love Demola had for Keziah? But I think that would be put under eros love, while that of her parents and Stella's love for God would be classified as Agape love, could we call the friendship between Demola and K.K love? The theme of love was greatly spread throughout the story.
5. THEME OF DISAPPOINTMENT: Disappointment is shown a lot in the play, disappointment was felt by Keziah's parents, Dirans parents, K. K's mother, Demola was even disappointed with himself after he committed the horrendous crime against Keziah, Keziah was disappointed with herself that she gave him a chance. Disappointment is a feeling of sadness or displeasure caused by the non-fulfilment of one's hopes or expectations.

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1. DEMOLA: Demola was a tall dark handsome young man, the son of Mr and Mrs. Diran and the best friend of Nkanga Nwoko commonly known as K.K. He was a student of Mayflower University

in the department of English. The character Demola was supposedly in love with his course mate Keziah and so sought out to win her heart but with much refusal from her he fell into the hands of peer pressure and did a heinous crime which was drugging and raping the girl. Afterward Keziah could never forgive him so he became filled with depression so much so that he succumbed even more to peer pressure by engaging in drugs and joining a cult which ultimately led to his early grave. His character depicts those students who instead of focusing on their academics decide to focus more on their feelings and although he was depicted to be a kind and caring person, he also portrayed the character of students that are more likely to fall easily into the hands of peer pressure. The character Demola teaches us to focus more on our education which is our major priority in the university, to steer clear of bad friends and we can do that when we notice certain bad habits or characters such as smoking, drinking, laziness to studies or any other form of vices from them. Finally, he teaches us not to be victims of peer pressure, to not succumb to peer influence because it can come in various forms and in ways we might never expect.

2. KEZIAH: Keziah the daughter of Mr and Mrs. Richards was a medium height, slightly rotund, fair young lady in her late teens who schooled at Mayflower university as a student of English. Keziah is the main character in the play "GOOD MORNING SODOM". Her Character depicts a young girl raised from a godly home with loving and caring parents, she was brought up with good home training and she evidently took the home training to the university, She was a serious student who focused on her education, she had three roommates one whom she liked called Stella and the other two she did not like so much, Keziah was not someone who forgot her major priority in the school even though she was being sought after by a boy called Demola, even with many attempts from him to woo her she stood firm in her decision not to engage in a romantic relationship with him, she also had friends that encouraged her to give him a chance but she was firm in her decision. After much attempts by Demola she finally agreed to come over to his house to study where she was drugged and became a victim of sexual harassment that is she was raped. Finding out what happened to her when she woke up and was free from the effect of the drugs she was filled with total hatred for Demola and although he tried to apologize, she refused to forgive him, she took comfort in the hands of her friend Stella who shared her own personal experience of being raped with her. When she found out that Demola the boy who raped her was dead, he was mistakenly shot during a cult battle, she was filled with total shock that made her pass out. Soon after it was discovered that she was pregnant and that stirred up hatred from her father towards her and

although she tried to explain what happened they would not believe her, the hatred of her father towards her was so bad to the point where he declared that she ceased to be his daughter the day she brought shame to their family. The hatred from her father made her depressed to the point that she tried to commit suicide by taking an overdose of drugs but luckily for her she was rushed to the hospital by her father where the doctor was able to save her and her unborn child afterwards her father's disdain returned to the former feelings of love and affection he had for his daughter. The Diran family also came to show their remorse for their son's actions and how they would love to be a part of the life of Demola and Keziah's child. Soon her child was born and

her parents provided her the opportunity to go back to school again at the university of Ibadan. Keziah's character tells us of a student that is serious with their studies, a student that knows and understands the reason why they were sent to the university and a student that fell victim to the hands of sexual harassment, her character also tells of those who deal with depression due to a traumatizing situation, she teaches us to be serious with our studies and to be careful with the kind of people around us so we will not succumb to their tricks.

3. DR.RICHARDS: Dr.Richards a 45 year old man and the father of Keziah Richards was a man big on discipline and morals and who taught it to his daughter but was very disappointed after finding out about his daughter pregnancy. The Character Dr.Richards was put in the light of being a hypocrite because he suggested abortion for his daughters pregnancy even though he himself is completely against it, but he suggested it either way claiming the situation was different. He was filled with shame and disgrace and he let the fear of what other people would think of him and his family outweigh the love and compassion he has towards his daughter and because of that started treating her with so much disdain but eventually came back to his senses when she tried to take her own life, his love for his daughter was renewed by the fear of losing her. He evidently started treating her and her child with love.

Dr.Richards character teaches us not to be hypocritical, to show love in all situations and it teaches us the dangers of showing hatred towards a person, it shows us how it can lead to mental illness like depression. He teaches us to love, respects and how to forgive our family members and others too when they hurt or wrong us.

Points of Divergence Between the Movie and The Book

- ✓ In the book when Stella got raped it said two of his friends went into the bedroom but in the movie three went into the bedroom
- ✓ In the movie Demolas mother was dead but in the book she was alive
- ✓ In the movie Demola was already a cult member but in the book Demola was among those getting initiated
- ✓ In the movie they arrested four cultist members but in the book three were arrested
- ✓ In the book Keziah's daughter's name was Mouritha but in the movie it was Heritage