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THEMATIC THRUSTS IN THE PLAY GOOD MORNING SODOM BY SOLOMON A. EDEBOR

NEGATIVE PEER INFLUENCE

The theme negative peer influence in one of the major theme portrayed in this play where Demola was easily influenced at a young age by a friend named K.K who is a cult member .Where he made him lie to his parents about the inadequate accommodation in the school hostel so he could stay with him off campus ,from there he lured him into taking hard drugs and becoming a member of cult group called ‘’RED SHADOWS’’ where he met his end at his first operation while in a fight with a rival cult group where K.K shot him instead of an opponent despite being one of the brilliant students in his department.

INADEQUATE PARENTAL CARE

The theme irresponsible parenthood shows how demola’s parents neglected their son while catering for his financial needs becloud their sense of parenthood who should care for the well being of their child not only financially but also all aspect of life. His parents failed to perform their responsibility as a parent despite being the only child they had, he lied to them about many things and got away with it as they never cared or bother to check on him ,to know how he was doing in school and what his challenges were, so he was easily controlled by his friends who engaged him in different despicable acts which lead to his death.

FRIENDSHIP/FOREGIVENESS

It is also one of the themes of the drama. It shows how the people around you can affect your lifestyle in appositive or negative way. As a case study, I will use Keziah and demola as an example: Keziah had stella as a friend who is a responsible young lady and a God fearing girl despite having her own painful past was very good to Keziah she encouraged her when she was raped and advised her not to give up in life and she told her to forgive her self and accept the mistake and move on with her life she was an embodiment of encouragement as a friend while demola’s friend was a source of evil advices that led him to his mistakes. He advised him to take advantage of innocent Keziah and also take hard drugs because it made him feel high herby giving him temporal pleasure with this we can understand that people we stay with can either add to your life positively or negatively .

RAPE

This is also one of the themes in this drama, but in this way it show the weaker genders are faced with abuse, in the drama, demola claimed he loved Keziah and the best way for him to prove his love to her was listening to the wrong advices and taking advantage of an innocent girl and hereby getting her pregnant in the process. This shows how sick some men in our society can be in reality claiming the love someone and still rubbing off the person’s pride in a shameful way. Another instance could be seen in the drama where the fourteen (14) years old stella was raped by her pastor’s sons and his friends. There was no justice for the girl although they were arrested their parent’s begged not to press charges because of their reputation but no one thought about the mental health of the girl the guilt, shame and every other things. This also show how corrupt the society can be as to how the poor can’t have the justice.

LOVE/PROPER PARENTAL CARE

The theme love is represented in the play this also played a huge role in the play as to why parents should have time for their kids and also know that parenting isn’t only about just sending their kids to school it involves being in touch with them and being part of their growth in every way just as Keziah’s dad; Mr Richard was there for his daughter though he was disappointed at some point at his daughter unlike demola’s dad who didn’t bother to check up on his son while he was in school and he was told about his son’s lifestyle after his son’s demise.

ANALYSES OF CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY GOOD MORNING SODOM

KEZIAH: In the play she was a very beautiful ,black, studious ,God fearing girl in her late teens that was only determined to do well in her academics. She was from a loving and caring home , she didn’t let her fathers wealth get into her head .She had few female friends and a male friend that was interested in having an affair with her but she only considered him as a friend . she trusted Demola so blindly that she accepted to visit him outside the school premises and that was her mistake and naivety. Apart from that she was a strong girl and willed to her baby despite all odds and she continued with her life and didn’t let her mistake define her.

DEMOLA: According to his character, he is seen as someone who wants something but doesn’t know how to get it or gets it through the wrong way he wanted to make Keziah his girlfriend and he made the mistake of going to defile and listening to his friends advice. He is that kind of person that can’t make good decisions for himself and ends of listening to the wrong people and he also had bad friends around himself. He was influenced to join cultism and he was also influenced to take drugs and live off campus so that he could have his freedom to walk about and he ended up destroying his life and it was a pity when he died a shameful death.

MRS JOKE RICHARDS: She is a very loving mother who cared about the well being of her daughter also performing her duty as a mother to Keziah ,made time to visit and provide for her daughter .Always available to perform her role in her daughters life and as a wife, she never neglected her even when she was pregnant ,she stood by her side and made sure she was balance in all aspect of life .She showed how much she loved and cared for Keziah and her child.