

AFE 122 ASSIGNMENT

NAME: KIENABERE EMMANUELLA EMMANUEL

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1. Attempt an incisive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.

Good Morning, Sodom is a play written by Solomon Adedokun Edebor and published by Patrick Edebor & Associates. It is a play of twenty-three movements and takes place at Mayflower university and features the effects of destructive acts in the lives of Demola Diran and Keziah Richards the chief characters of the book. As stated in the foreword of the book, the issue addressed in this dramatic book is the “deplorable moral decadence” in the society which has spread to higher institutions.

The central theme of the book, Good morning, Sodom, is the effect of negative peer pressure. The book paints a realistic picture of how the influence from those around us can impact our lives and the decisions we make. In movements one and four we can see as Keziah consistently rejected the advances of Demola. However, her course mates Ovie and Bunmi pressure her into giving him a chance which in turn cause her to fall victim to Demola's execrable plan in which he drugged and raped her. However, Demola's plan was also a result of negative peer pressure from his friends K.K and Bentol, this can be seen in the twentieth movement. Although Demola is hesitant at first, he eventually gives in after much persuasion. These friends were the catalysts which led to Demola's ignominious death. The implication of these in this play is to show how easy it is for individuals especially students to fall prey to the grim reality of negative peer pressure. The play Good Morning, Sodom, aims to educate the audience on 'lessons that need to be learnt from mistakes resulting from peer pressure'.

Indifferent parenting is another notable theme from the play. The neglect of Demola's parents in his school and personal life led him to seek guidance

from negative influences rather than being able to depend on his parents. Their failure to check up on their son resulted in K.K succeeding in making Demola perform heinous and reprehensible acts. H

is parents later regret their lack of involvement as seen in the twenty first movement, However, it is a little too late. The author, Solomon Edebor, uses the role of Engineer Derin and his wife Mrs.Derin to enlighten the audience on the level of involvement in a child life is crucial in ensuring that they remain on the right path throughout their lives.

Thirdly, the author has successfully explored the theme of cultism in Nigerian universities. Member are lured into the group and it is in that same way that Demola was recruited into joining the Red sparrows. The author aims to illuminate the lingering atrocities that have been bedeviling the nation's campuses. The dangerous reality of associating with cults and cult members. Demola's untimely death in movement ten is significant in showing the audience, especially the youths, why we should refrain from criminal activities and offenses on and outside of our campuses.

Apart from that, the theme of drug abuse and its effect is also portrayed in this play. There is the mention of drug at different movements of the play. Demola used a substance to drug Keziah and in movement seven he and K.K can be seen sniffing hard drugs. Demola mentions how the last time he used hard drugs he nearly had an accident; the author uses this statement to inform his readers on the dangers of using hard drugs. The reader can understand how damaging the effect of hard drugs can be.

Inability of constituted authorities to take decisive steps towards curbing the menace. Although cults are a very dangerous it is job of the situated authorities to control the spread of cultism on Nigerian campuses. The play, Good morning, Sodom, shows how the authorities in Mayflower university only took action against these anti-social vices when it was too late. Demola had already faced a pitiful death and Keziah's life had already been turned upside down.

2.detailed analysis of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good morning, Sodom

The book *Good morning, Sodom* centers on a character named Keziah Richards, a 200-level student of Mayflower university who undergoes a life changing event due to the influence of her course mates. Keziah is the Protagonist of this play. Keziah is portrayed as a disciplined and focused student throughout most of the story. The readers can see this from her interaction with Demola in the second movement. She makes it clear to him that she is “here for a purpose: to study...” and “the last thing I need is distraction...”. With these initial reactions to Demola’s advances, we can clearly see that Keziah values her education. However, Keziah might also be seen as someone who can be easily swayed, this means that Keziah decisions can be easily influenced and this is shown in movement five where her course mates Ovie and Bunmi are able to convince her to give Demola chance despite constantly turning him down. Her inability to stand her ground undeniably led her into Demola’s trap. Keziah was a hopeful character, despite the hardship she faced and her negative experience at the university she was still hopeful that she would have a second chance at completing her education. Similarly, Keziah was portrayed as understanding. When Keziah became pregnant, her relationship with her father became strained as he felt she had brought shame to the family name. Despite, this Keziah was still sympathetic to how her father was feeling. She was tolerant despite being told that she was no longer his daughter. She was willing and ready and to forgive her father and still felt he didn’t need her forgiveness and in her eyes his reaction and his behavior towards her was valid and justified.

Another very important character in the book *Good morning, Sodom* is Demola Diran a 200 level English literature student of Mayflower university. Demola is presented in the play as a persistent character. His behavior towards Keziah throughout his first appearance to his last appearance in the book shows the reader the extent of his persistency. He continues to make advances towards Keziah despite constantly being turned down. He even goes as far as approaching her friends when he sees

that Keziah has not been to class. It is even revealed in the twentieth movement that he used an assignment as bait in order to get Keziah to come over to his off-campus apartment. Demola might also be seen as a naïve character. This is a character who lacks experience, wisdom or judgement. If he wasn't naïve, he would have been able to know what a bad idea it was to drug and defile and unconscious Keziah. Similarity between Demola and Keziah is that they were both easily influenced by their friends into doing things they didn't want to and in the end those things had grave effects on their lives.

Lastly, Mrs. Joke Richards, who is Keziah's mother is a great depiction of what a mother's love should look like. We can see her loving relationship with her daughter throughout the book. The book starts off with Mrs. Richard visiting Keziah on campus. The fact that she makes time to visit and spend time with her daughter is an important factor in showing how close their relationship was. She was a compassionate character, especially during Keziah's pregnancy unlike Mr. Richards who regarded Keziah as a disgrace to their family. Mrs. Richards took care of Keziah and even defended her against Mr. Richard, this can be seen in the sixteenth movement when she argues with Mr. Richards "don't you think you are taking this matter too very important part of the play and was a support system for Keziah during her hard times.

3.What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of Good morning, Sodom?

PUBLISHED VERSION	FILM VERSION
Keziah is portrayed as fair, slightly rotund young lady with plaited hair	Here, Keziah is seen as a darker skinned, slim lady who is wearing a wig
The DPO is a female in the published version	Here the DPO is a male figure
In this version, Engineer Diran and Mrs. Diran were both alive	In the film, Mrs. Diran had passed away
Here we see, the interaction between Keziah and her parents in movement 23	In the film we are simply told she continues her education in university of

as she opens her admission to university of Ibadan	Ibadan at the end of the film
The name of Keziah's daughter in the book is Mouritha	In this version, her daughter's name is Heritage
Demola was initiated into the Red shadows here	Demola was already a member of the Red shadows
Emmanuella approached Stella in in her room when she had just woken up to tell her God still loves her dearly	Emmanuella approached Stella whole she was at the line watching clothes