

# AFE 122 Assignment

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- 1) Attempt an incisive interpretation of Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts and drama engages
- 2) Attempt detailed character analysis of any three characters in Solomon Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom.
- 3) What are the points of divergence between the filmed and written version of GOOD MORNING SODOM.

1a) **Bad Parenting:** This is a thematic thrust in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom. Bad parenting is very common especially among the wealthy parents of today. These parents always pamper their children and listen to every little thing and excuse provided by their children. This was shown in the nineteenth movement when K.K was brought out of his cell only to meet Engineer and Mrs Diran, Demola's parents. They admitted to have provided Demola with everything he wanted a without proper investigation. They only noticed this when K.K explained everything to them and confessing that he was the one who caused Demola's drug addiction as seen in the seventh movement and accidentally killed him.

Fortunately, Demola's parents displayed some sense of responsibility towards the end of the play, in the twenty first movement, where Engineer and Mrs Diran were seen at the Richard's house. They properly apologized for what Demola had caused and consoled each other when they were reminded of his death. They also accepted to have not dutifully performed their responsibilities as parents and failed Demola.

- b) **Consequences of Rape:** The play talks about the effect of rape on young women both physically and mentally. This was shown on both Keziah and her friend, Stella. In Movement six, Keziah went to Demola's house after being convinced by her friends. She only went with a harmless intention of finishing up an assignment with

Demola. Demola also went along with Keziah and were both doing the assignment. Demola ended up drugging Keziah and raped her. She realized that she had been raped only after waking up and ran off angrily. She was traumatized and was even more traumatized after she learnt about her pregnancy in the fourteenth movement. Here, it is seen that her dad raging with disappointed in her and. Refuses to believe her. Her mother also does the same. In the sixteenth movement, Dr Richards is seen ignoring his daughter after just coming back from work. He even claimed to no longer be her father anymore as she caused a lot of damaged and disgraced her family Name. This takes a toll on Keziah which makes her fall into a state of depression and eventually even try to commit suicide in the eighteenth movement.

c) **Supremacy of the Law**: In Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom, It is portrayed that no matter how strong and powerful you are, the long arm of the law would eventually catch you. This is shown in the thirteenth movement where the Cultists are finally apprehended by the police. A lot of the other cultist like Usman (Bentol), Sebiotimo (Spark) and Onaja (Jumo) were already in their Penultimate year or in the 300 Level. It is also shown in the seventeenth Movement where K.K (Nwoko) and the rest of the captured cultists were given lifetime imprisonment and two year jail terms respectively, even though the Defence counsel tries to convince the judge to set them free because of the fact that they were just students and were already punished enough by the management of the school after all getting expelled in their Final years.

It is also shown in the fifteenth Movement, where all the students who engaged in the antisocial act of cultism were instantly expelled. Demola was also included in the list, even though he had already been killed while battling their rival cult group, "The Sparrows".

d) **Peer Pressure**: Peer pressure is one of the greatest issues among children and young adults. There are two main cases of peer pressure in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom. The first and the smallest case of the effect of peer pressure in the play was on Keziah. This was seen in the fifth movement where Keziah friends, Ovie and Bunmi. They convinced Keziah into befriending demola shortly after she ignored his conversation again. They were doing it with good intention and did not know that the outcome would be the way it got to be. Keziah, taking her friends talk into consideration, decided to offer Demola a chance at friendship, a chance she later regretted when she was drugged and raped by Demola a few days later.

The other case of the negative effect of peer pressure was seen on Demola's and his friend, Nwoko. Demola was an innocent and intelligent young man until he met K.K in the University. K.K saw that Demola was the child of wealthy parent. This

caught his eye and immediately befriended Demola. It was seen in Movement seven when Nwoko said that he made Demola rape Keziah. HE even convinced Demola to take a white powdery drug, which made him high. Demola followed him and ended up doing everything K.K convinced him to do. He even convinced him to join a cult group which led to his untimely death.

e) **Cultism:** One of the main thematic thrusts in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom was the negative impacts of cultism. In the eight movement of the Author's play, some students are seen initiating some other students into their notorious cult group, "Red Shadows". Demola, a 200 Level English student was among those being initiated. It was later explained in the play that Demola was not actually interested in joining the cult, but was persuaded by his closest friend and senior, "K.K" also known as Nkanga Nwoko. He joining the cult was the greatest mistake of his life, as his life was accidentally ended by his same closest friend.

Cultism and anything related to cultism in both secondary and tertiary institutions never ends well, as the members are forced to stay in the cult in fear of being caught. A lot of students also end up being permanently maimed and lose their lives. This is seen when Demola was suddenly shown to be dead in the tenth movement. Those caught in the act of cultism are often expelled, jailed or even killed. This was portrayed in both the thirteenth movement where Nwoko was arrested and the seventeenth movement, where he was sentenced to life imprisonment along with the other perpetrators.

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- a) **Demola:** Demola was a very good child, until he came into the university. He was also very smart and friendly, all these stopped when he met Nwoko, his senior. Nwoko influenced him and persuaded him to do a lot of stuff that were bad and ended up getting him killed.
- b) **Keziah:** One of the main characters, Keziah is a vibrant, smart young girl. She is a student of Mayflower University. Her Parents were Dr Aworawo Richards and Mrs Joke Richards. Keziah, at the beginning of the play, was shown to be a much disciplined, law abiding student. She follows everything her mom tells her to do in the first movement. This kept going on even when she had an admirer, Demola, who publicly confesses his love for her. Keziah refuses, knowing fully well what would happen if she heard him out and started a relationship. Unfortunately, she was convinced by her friends to at least give him a chance at friendship, a chance which Demola squandered by drugging raping her the first time she comes to his house in the fifth movement. This made Keziah very angry and sad when she learnt that Demola was killed during a cult clash in the tenth movement.

c) **Dr Aworawo Richards**: Dr Aworawo Richards, otherwise known as Dr Richards is a busy man and the father of Keziah. He is also the husband to Mrs Joke Richards. He is a man who takes his and his Family's reputation very seriously. This was shown in the fourteenth and sixteenth movements where he emphasized on not wanting to be disgraced in the society.

He even went as far as bringing an idea of abortion, an idea which Mrs Richards did not like in the sixteenth movement. His obsession for a better reputation made him act coldly to his daughter and even at some point, denied her to be one of his children. He ended up regretting that decision when his daughter almost committed suicide. After he realized his actions. He apologized to his daughter and made it up to her by showing her unconditional love and care and also getting her an admission and accommodation into the University of Ibadan.

3). i. Narrative Structure :

One of the significant differences between the written play and the film version is the narrative structure. The play is structured as a series of interconnected vignettes that explore various aspects of Nigerian society. In contrast, the film has a more linear narrative structure, with a clear storyline that follows the character, Haggai, as he navigates the challenges of living in Lagos.

ii. Characterization :

The film version of Good Morning, Sodom features some new characters, and some of the characters in the play are portrayed differently. For example, the character of Mama Risi, who is a central character in the play, is a minor character in the film. In contrast, the character of Haggai is given a more prominent role in the film, and his backstory is explored in more detail.

Tone and style :

The play is a satirical work that uses humor and irony to critique Nigerian society. In contrast, the film version of Good Morning, Sodom is a more somber and serious work. The film's cinematography and visual style are also quite different from the play, with the film featuring more cinematic shots and a more polished look.

iii. Setting :

The play takes place in various locations across Lagos, with each scene presenting a different aspect of Nigerian society. In contrast, the film version of Good Morning, Sodom is primarily set in a single location, a slum in Lagos. The film uses the setting to explore the harsh realities of life in Lagos and the challenges that the characters face.

Overall, while the film version of Good Morning, Sodom remains true to the themes and general plot of the play, it is a distinct work that diverges from the play in several key ways. The film's more linear narrative structure, somber tone, and different characterization all contribute to a unique cinematic experience that is different from the written play Chief Justice .