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ASSIGNMENT.

1. ATTEMPT AN INCISIVE INTERROGATION OF SOLOMON A. EDOBOR’S “GOOD MORNING SODOM”, UNDERSCORING AT LEAST FIVE UNDERLYING THEMATIC THRUSTS THE DRAMA ENGAGES.
2. ATTEMPT A DETAILED CHARACTER ANALYSES OF ANY THREE

CHARACTERS IN SOLOMON A. EDOBOR’S “GOOD MORNING SODOM”.

1. WHAT ARE THE POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND THE FILM VERSION OF “GOOD MORNING, SODOM”.

The Play “GOOD MORNING SODOM” was written by Solomon A. Edobor. The play tries to point out some of the atrocities that has been taking place in the higher institutions in our Nation, like prostitution, cultism, taking of hard drugs, rape, and other anti-social vices. The play also tries to identify some important factors like negative peer influence, lack of parental care, and so on.

1. **THEMES.**

A theme is the central argument or statement that a work of art makes about its subject matter. It is also the message or idea in a literary work.

There are various themes that make up this play. They Include:

1. ***THEME OF PEER PRESSURE / NEGATIVE PEER INFLUENCE:*** The play “Good Morning Sodom”, talks about negative peer pressure that usually involves influence that sways people towards risky activities such as excessive underage drinking, drug use, criminal behavior, and other unhealthy lifestyles. The negative peer influence of K.K (Nkango Nwoko) on Demola Diran was what destroyed Demola’s life and even caused his death. It is often said that you should not let anyone define you, but Demola’s life was unfortunately defined by his friend, K.K.

Demola Diran was formerly a good boy and was well focused till he was influenced by K.K. Due to K.K’s bad influence on him, he did a lot of bad things like lying to his parents that there was not enough accommodation just so he could live off campus. It was also K.K that convinced Demola to drug and rape the girl that he genuinely loved, K.K also introduced Demola into taking illegal drugs (this was when Demola was sad about the fact that he had raped Keziah, so K.K gave him drugs to take so that he could forget his sorrows). K.K also lured Demola into joining a cult group called “Red Shadows Confraternity”, and joining this illegal group was exactly what led to Demola’s death. This is because the members of “Red Shadows Confraternity” were meant to fight another cult group in the night that had previously killed their member, and in the process of fighting the other cult group, K.K mistakenly killed his cult member and friend, Demola. And this was what cut short the life of Demola, as he immediately died.

1. ***THEME OF THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PARENTING:*** The most important thing in the world is family and love. The play shows the importance of good parenting. Engineer Diran and his wife failed in their parenting towards their son, Demola Diran. Engineer Diran explained how they were never bothered to ckeck on Demola and how he was doing in School, and what his challenges were. They only provided his material and financial needs, but did not provide his physical and psychological needs. Bad parenting makes a child more prone to criminal behaviours. The failure by Demola’s parents to keep a close eye on him made K.K to take the place of Demola’s parents and taught him to engage in bad and despicable acts. Demola’s parents did not carry out their responsibilities of checking up on their son and he was kind of neglected by his parents. Neglect means to ignore a person and not care about who they are, what they want, and what they need. An effect of bad parenting is Negative self perception and also Control issues. Demola had control issues, he clearly did not know how to control his issues and so he let another person (K.K) to do that for him, this also led to his drug use.
2. ***THEME OF THE AGONY OF RAPE:*** Rape is now increasingly being viewed as a crime not of passion but of power, the assertion of the will of one human being over another. We can see in Movement 6 how Demola forcefully took Keziah under the influence of the charm, against her own will. The victims of rape often blame themselves for somehow inviting violence. In the same Movement 6, when Keziah was with Stella, Keziah said that she sold herself cheaply, she also said that she caused it. There is in the aftermath of rape a sense of never being able to be what one has been, a sense of disillusionment and despair. We also saw how Stella was raped by four (4) boys. She had accompanied her father to the house of their Pastor, where the Pastor’s son and his friends deceived her, overpowered her and raped her in turns. This incident made Stella to loose her faith in Christ. Rape of one woman is a degradation, terror and limitation to all women. Rape involves assault and physical violence. About 13 percent of all students experience rape or sexual assault, through physical force or incapacitation. Demola had to quench his desire by luring Keziah and taking her under her own will. The rape also signifies distrust and betrayal.
3. ***THEME OF REGRET:*** Regret is a complicated emotion capable of leading to various consequences. Regret can de an evocative touch point, one we lanmine in our stories. There is a quote that states, “make a rule of life never to regret and never to look back”. The theme of regret is expressed by Keziah when in movement 7 she said that she curse the sun that shone the day she set her eyes on Demola. She regretted ever meeting Demola and accepting to be his friend, this was after Demola had betrayed her and caused her so much sadness by charming her and raping her.
4. ***THEME OF REDEMPTION:*** Redemption is a powerful uplifting theme that acknowledges the human potential to succeed after having failed. Failures or tragedies set the stage for a sad story, but it does not have to end this way. The play “Good Morning Sodom”, employs redemption as a central theme. The characters especially Keziah and Stella, sees the error of their ways and strive to right their wrong. Redemption according to the Max- Webster Dictionary is defined as an act, process or an instance of redeeming, it is an act of being saved. Keziah became pregnant for Demola unknowingly and her educational adventure was then trauncated and she was forced to live with the consequences of her action. But then in the 23rd movement, after she had given birth to her daughter, Mouritha, her parents helped her to redeem herself. First they changed her environment so that she could put the ugly experience behind her, and then they enrolled her in a School (University of Ibadan). Her parnts due to their belief in her, helped her to bring her dream of being an educated young woman to reality again. In Stella’s case, we can see redemption as an act of atoning for her fault or mistake. Due to the rape, Stella blamed God, she stopped praying, and her heart became very hardened, she also dabbled into all forms of immorality and became an expert in it. After Stella’s second dream, she realized that if she does not go back to God and give her life to Christ, her life was going to become miserable, and so as a redemption, Stella started worshipping God again and has put the ugly past aside and also continued her education in the University.
5. ***THEME OF LOVE:*** We are shown in movement 1 how Keziah is genuinely loved by her parents. They cared about her so much that they often came to visit her. Her mother came to visit her and brought lots of provisions for her, and her father who was also supposed to visit her could not due to an urgent call and so promised to come another day with a surprise for her. It was also her mother’s love for her that made her to still be by her side even when she had disappointed the family. Her mother still loved and cared for her during her pregnancy, even though her father was very much angry with her because she had brought shame to the family. Though Keziah’s father was very angry with her and claimed to have disowned her, we cannot doubt the fact that he still genuinely loved her as he showed great fear when Keziah tried to commit suicde and was really begging God to save his daughter’s life.
6. ***THEME OF GUILT:*** this is a dominant theme in this play. It was Demola’s guilt after he had raped Keziah that eventually made him to start taking drugs that was offered to him by K.K just so he could forget his sorrows. It was also Keziah’s guilt of having put her family to a great shame that led her to wanting to committing suicide. Keziah felt guilty due to her pregnancy, she felt that she has brought so much sorrows to her parents by getting pregnant out of wedlock, and she did not want to be a burden to her parents, that was why she resolved in trying to commit suicide, though she did not die. We also see that Keziah’s father is feeling guilty by thinking that it was as a result of his harsh and mean attitude towards Keziah that led her to attempt suicide. We also see that K.K is feeling guilty, which leads him to confess to Demola’s parents that he is the cause of every bad act committed by Demola such as taking drugs, joining cult, and raping Keziah. Demola’s parents also feel guilty that they cause their child’s death by not fulfilling their responsibilities as parents to their child, they felt that they did not always check up on him, and that they only provided his material and financial needs but did not provide his physical and psychological needs.
7. **CHARACTER ANALYSES.**
8. ***KEZIAH:*** It is safe to say that Keziah is the main character in the play, this is because the whole play revolves around her. Keziah is a young innocent, determined, focused and well-behaved girl who is in her late teens. She is a 200 level student in English department of Mayflower University. She is from a wealthy family. She is the daughter of DR. and MRS RICHARDS, she is loved by her parents. She is the course mate of Demola, Ovie and Bunmi. She is also the roommate to Stella and Mmaobi. She is admired and liked by her course mate Demola who keeps disturbind all the time so that they could be friends, but Keziah keeps refusing. Her coursemates (Ovie and Bunmi) keep telling her to give Demola a chance, that he seems good and responsible. Keziah later agrees to be Demola’s friend, so she goes to his apartment so that they can discuss an assignment that is not so clear to her, unknowingly this was Keziah’s biggest mistake of her life as she was betrayed by Demola who took advantage of her by charming her, druging her and raping her. Keziah’s parents later discovers that she is pregnant and they are very disappointed that she has brought shame to the family. Keziah however apologizes and tries to explain that it was not an intentional act. Her mother wants her to keep the baby while her father wants her to abort it. Keziah is treated harshly by her father which leads her to attempting suicide, however she didn’t die and the baby didn’t also die as she is saved by the doctor. This makes her father realize that he is going and acting the wrong way, and he apologizes to Keziah for constantly being harsh on her. Her father then agrees that she keeps the pregnancy. Keziah later gives birth to a baby girl, Mouritha. And her father decides that she would go back to school at University of Ibadan, a different environment so that she would leave behind her ugly experience. Keziah is a lucky girl who is opportuned to still fulfill her dream of going to school and being an educated woman, though her dreams are brought to reality by her parents.
9. ***DEMOLA:*** this is another major character in the play. Demola Diran was formerly a good and focused boy before he met K.K (Nkango Nwako). He was a 200 level student of the English department in Mayflower University. He is the child of ENGINEER and MRS DIRAN. He was the one who liked Keziah and was the one responsible for ruining Keziah’s life by raping her and giving her an unwanted pregnancy, he was therefore also responsible for ending Keziah’s educational adventure. Demola is also a victim of negative peer pressure /bad influence, it was this that made him to rape Keziah, use drugs and join cult groups that later caused his death. Demola is also a victim of bad parenting as his parents only provided his material and financial needs without providing physical and psychological needs. They failed to check up on him to know how he is doing and to know his challenges. As a result of this, K.K took the place of Demola’s parents in Demola’s life and then K.K succeeded in making Demola to be involved in various crimes. Demola later became a member of the RED SHADOWS CONFRATERNITY which led to his death because after he had become a member, they had a fight with an opposing cult group were he was unintentionally and mistakenly shot by a member of his cult group, who is also his friend, K.K (Nkango Nwoko).Demola’s name was on the University list of students that were to be expelled.
10. ***K.K (NKANGO NWOKO):*** this is another character in the play. He was a 400 level student of the Mayflower University. He is Demola’s friend, though not in the same level as Demola. He was the one who persuaded Demola (alongside with Bentol) to charm and drug Keziah so as to rape her since she had been proving hard to get. He was also the one who introduced Demola to drugs when Demola was feeling bad for raping Keziah, he told Demola to take the drugs so that he can forget his sorrows. K.K is also a member of the “RED SHADOWS CONFRATERNITY” and was the one who shot his friend, Demola, unintentionally and mistakenly, when they were fighting with another cult group called “THE SPARROWS” who had previously killed their members, Dagren and Festula. K.K was also expelled from Mayflower University even as a 400 level student of the English department, for an offence of anti-social vices.

K.K was also charged to court for three(3) offences- murder, belonging to a cult group (unlawful society) and illegal possession of firearms. Though the judge gave his verdict based on manslaughter and not murder, since he did not intentionally kill his friend. He was sentenced to life imprisonment for manslaughter, and verdict for belonging to an unlawful society and illegal possession of firearms was two (2) years imprisonment and a fine of Hundred thousand naira respectively.

1. **THE POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND THE FILM VERSION OF “GOOD MORNING SODOM”.**

There are some obvious differences between the published and the film version of “Good Morning Sodom”, which I would be stating below.

 • In Movement 2, in the published version the discussion between Keziah and Demola was held on their way to the library, while in the film version the discussion was held inside the library.

 • In Movement 3, in the film version while Dr. Yusuf was lecturing, two students (a boy and a girl) came in late for the class and he ordered the to “get out” of the class, but that was not portrayed in the published version.

 • In Movement 3, in the published version Dr. Yusuf ended the class by saying “good morning” with the students responding “good morning, Sir” and with the whole class becoming noisy immediately Dr. Yusuf left the class, but in the film version Dr. Yusuf first of all asked if they had any questions, there was no response and then he said that he will take their silence to mean that there is no question, he then said “good day” and they replied “thank you Sir”, the class was not noisy after that.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version we were told that Stella and her father were ushered into the Pastor’s living room and were waiting for few other members when the Pastor came in and called her father aside, but in the film version the Pastor was seen talking to Stella’s father outside the house before her father then told her to go inside and stay with Daniel.

 • In Movement 6, the published version stated that Stella found herself in the hospital after the rape incident, but the film version did not portray that.

 • In Movement 6, the published version stated that four young men were seen bringing out some clothes from a house under the command of Adeyoju, but in the film version it was just one man that was bringing out the clothes from a house under the command of Adeyoju.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version we were told that the man who stopped Stella from drowning herself was putting on a Khaki Shirt and Shorts with a Cap, but in the film version the man was putting on an Ankara shirt and trouser.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version after the dream we were told that Stella suddenly wakes up on her bed in the hostel when Emmanuella knocked on the door, but in the film version Stella was not shown in her hostel room bed after the dream, instead she was seen outside packing her clothes when Emmanuella approached her.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version we were told that Stella rose from her bed and went straight to the door, opened it and impatiently waited for Emmanuella to exit, after which she bolted the door, but in the film version she was outside packing her clothes while waiting for Emmanuella to leave.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version we were told that Mmaobi tapped Stella on the shoulder to wake her up while she was dreaming, but in the film version Mmaobi did not tap Stella’s shoulder but only called out her name.

 • In Movement 6, in the published version we were told that Stella was narrating her experience and dream to Keziah in the hostel because as soon as she was done telling Keziah her dream, Keziah turned her face to the wall as she laid on her bed and continued to sob uncontrollably, but in the film version Stella narrated her experience and dream to Keziah on the road while they were sitting by a tree.

 • In Movement 8, in the published version we were told that there were three blindfolded young men kneeling and about six other students circling the fire in a red t-shirt and a black beret, but in the film version there were only two blindfolded students kneeling and seven other students circling the fire.

 • In Movement 8, in the published version we were told that Demola was among the three blindfolded young men kneeling, but in the film version Demola was among those standing and wearing red t-shirt and black beret that were not blindfolded.

 • There was not a play out of Movement 9 in the film version, where in the published version gun shots were said to be heard from different directions, with dim lights revealing some students, hiding from, and shooting sporadically at one another.

 • In Movement 10, in the published version we were told that Demola was soaked in the pool of his own blood, but in the film version that was not so.

 • In Movement 10, in the published version we were told that Keziah collapsed and started bleeding, but in the film version Keziah only collapsed without any sort of bleeding shown.

 • In Movement 10, in the published version a moving car was stopped to take Keziah to the hospital, but in the film version that was not portrayed.

 • In Movement 13, in the published version we were told that the DPO was a woman, but in the film version the DPO was a man.

 • In Movement 13, in the published version Inspector Dele presented three of the apprehended cultists to the DPO, but in the film version four of the apprehended cultists were presented to the DPO.

 • In Movement 14, in the published version Keziah’s mother seemed to have been in the sitting room from the beginning of the conversation with Keziah, but in the film version Keziah’s mother only came into the sitting room after Keziah explained to her father that she was drugged and then raped.

 • In Movement 14, in the published version the part where Dr. Richards told Keziah that she is a disgrace to the family and that because of her they will become objects of ridicule everywhere, was not portrayed in the film version.

 • There is a part in the film version where Mrs. Richards was seen consoling Keziah after Keziah had heard everything that her father said while he was in the bedroom with her mother, but this part was not portrayed in the book.

 • In Movement 17, in the published version we were told that after the judge’s judgement Mrs Nkanga (K.K’s mother) collapsed and was rushed to a waiting van, but that was not portrayed in the film version.

 • In Movement 19, in the published version Engineer Diran was with his wife (Mrs. Diran) in Agobi prison due to Nkanga Nwoko (K.K’s) request to see them, but in the film version it was only Engineer Diran that was present.

 • In Movement 21, in the published version Engineer Diran was with Mrs. Diran as they were with Dr. Richards and Mrs. Richards together with Keziah in Engineer Diran’s sitting room, but in the film version only Engineer Diran was present without his wife, Mrs. Diran.

 • In the film version it was revealed that Mrs. Diran died, but we were not told that Mrs. Diran died in the published version.

 • In Movement 22, in the published version we were told that Mrs. Richards was pacing around in fear due to the fact that Keziah was in the labour room, while Dr. Richards remained sitted and was trying to calm Mrs. Richards down by assuring her that all would be fine, but in the film version Dr. Richards was actually seen standing and pacing around in fear together with his wife, Mrs. Richards.

 • In Movement 23, in the published version we were told that Keziah daughter’s name is Mouritha, while in the film version we were told that Keziah daughter’s name is Heritage Demola-Diran.