

## QUESTIONS

- 1) Attempt an incisive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning, Sodom*, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.
- 2) Attempt detailed character analyses of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning, Sodom*.

1.) **Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature in the workplace or learning environment, according to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Sexual harassment does not always have to be specifically about sexual behaviour or directed at a specific person. For example, negative comments about women as a group may be a form of sexual harassment.

Although sexual harassment laws do not usually cover teasing or offhand comments, these behaviours can also be upsetting and have a negative emotional effect. Relating this to the play, we can see that Keziah was a victim of sexual harassment, in the form of rape, she was deprived of her right, her pride as a female was taken away from. She had to hide around her friends because she was being mocked on campus, she started to live in fear, she stayed indoors more often, and more importantly, lost her confidence. Sexual harassment takes away one's dignity, making he/she prudent in the environment, this was what happened to Keziah, she didn't have the mind of herself any more, and she lived her life in silence, far away from others.

2. ) **BETRAYAL:** This is the violation of a person's trust or confidence, of a moral standard. Betrayal is the breaking or violation of a presumptive contract, trust, or confidence that produces moral and psychological conflict within a relationship amongst individuals, between organizations or between individuals and organizations.

The incident that occurred between Keziah and Demola was an act of betrayal on the side of Demola, although their relationship wasn't that smooth, but the fact that she followed him to his room, it means she had a little trust for him, and that trust got lost when Demola forced his way to sleep with Keziah. This was when betrayal stepped in, Keziah felt so denounced, because she was raped by the person she started having feelings for. Demola was left with guilt in his heart, and Keziah's trust

being shattered.

**3. ) PEER PRESSURE:** Peer pressure is the direct or indirect influence on peers, i.e., members of social groups with similar interests, experiences, or social statuses. Members of a peer group are more likely to influence a person's beliefs, values, and behaviour. A group or individual may be encouraged and want to follow their peers by changing their attitudes, values or behaviours to conform to those of the influencing group or individual. For the individual affected by peer pressure, this can have both a positive or negative influence on them. Peer pressure can affect individuals of all ethnicities, genders and ages, the same way it influenced Keziah both positively and negatively. Talking on the negative aspect of this, we can see in the play that it was bad influence that led to incident that occurred to Keziah. She walked with bad companies who advised her to maintain a relationship with Demola who eventually ditched her. This whole thing happened as a result of peer group influence.

Nevertheless, she had friends who still advised her positively, friends who gave her hope when there was none, though she was influenced by the positive friends, but got distracted along the way by the negative ones.

**4. ) PARENTAL CONTROL:** Parental controls are features which may be included in digital television services, computers and video games, mobile devices and software that allow parents to restrict the access of content to their children. These controls were created to assist parents in their ability to restrict certain content viewable by their children. This may be content they deem inappropriate for their age, maturity level or feel is aimed more at an adult audience.

Keziah had parents who cared and always loved her, but her Dad didn't love her that much as her Mum did. She didn't really have a Father-to-daughter relationship, though she was a good child who obeys her parents, and a Christian home girl, but if her Dad was always there for her, things wouldn't have gone that bad, such that she thought of committing suicide, because Her Dad wasn't giving her the support that she needed that very moment, instead, blaming her for the consequences of what she did. If Keziah had a very good parenting, she wouldn't have thought of

killing herself, and she wouldn't have been raped in the first place.

5.) **JUSTICE:** the maintenance or administration of what is just especially by the impartial adjustment of conflicting claims or the assignment of merited rewards or punishments. It is the quality of being just, impartial, or fair. It is also the conformity to truth, fact, or reason. Towards the ending of the play, at the seventeenth movement of the play, it is seen that there is a court procession going on with the Judge treating a case of cultism and murder of some students from Mayflower University. K.K and Bentol, members of the Red Shadows Confraternity were to face charges for the crime they committed. Though Nkanga Nwoko was from a poor home where his Mum sells plantain to sponsor his education, but still, the Judge wasn't partial about the judgement meted out to them, he also kept in consideration, the damages that has been made, so they were charged with life imprisonment according to the Criminal Code Act CAP C28 LFN 2004 of section 319. The Judge was being fair, and this act of fairness is called Justice.

2.) **KEZIAH:** Keziah Richards, the protagonist of the play. She is a loving and caring daughter. She was a brilliant and hardworking student at Mayflower University. She was a roommate to Stella and Mmaobi. She turned down Demola's proposal due to her belief that all boys were just looking for someone to sleep with. She was later betrayed by Demola who drugged and raped her after inviting her over to his house for studies.

Keziah was shocked, sad, and angry at Demola for forcefully taking her virginity. She deeply regretted honoring Demola's invitation.

She was further saddened by the medical test result her father handed to her which stated that she was pregnant and heartbroken when her father denied her as his daughter.

After being ignored severally by her dad and overhearing her parents' argument, Keziah decided to commit suicide. She wrote a letter to her parents asking for forgiveness then she took some drugs that made her collapse on the floor.

Fortunately, she was found by her father and rushed to the hospital where she was treated.

In the hospital ward, Mr. Richards, Keziah's Father, begged Keziah to forgive him for

treating her like a stranger.

A few months later, Keziah gave birth to a baby girl, Mouritha, and about a year later, she was offered admission into the University of Ibadan to continue her studies. The admission gave Keziah and her family hopes that she would be able to continue chasing her dreams.

**i. MRS. RICHARDS:**

The mother of the protagonist (Keziah Richards) and wife to Mr. Richards. She is a loving, caring, and supportive mother who supported Keziah while she was pregnant.

Mrs. Richards loved her daughter so much that she often argued with her husband about the way he was treating their daughter.

**ii. ENGINEER DIRAN:**

The father of Demola. He is a wealthy and ill-tempered man. He was very angry as well as troubled over his son's recent antisocial behavior and tragic death. He and his wife are portrayed as irresponsible parents because they were unable to monitor or check up on their son and advise him against cultism, keeping bad friends, and abusing drugs.

He took responsibility for his deceased son's mistakes by offering to support the Richards in taking care of his granddaughter, Mouritha.

### **3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING SODOM?**

#### **POINTS OF DIVERGENCE**

Firstly, I would give the differences between the movie and the book.

In the book, the author spends a lot of time providing details of characters, events, objects, and places, while in the movie, there were no lengthy detail.

In the book, the reader has to use his/her imagination to create a visual image from the words contained in the book, whereas the movie present the reader with a ready visual image.

#### **Third Movement**

- In the film version, Dr Yusuf's class is interrupted by two students of opposite sex

after they came to class late.

- In the film, Dr Yusuf greeted the students with 'Good Day' while in the published he greeted with 'good morning'.
- Demola's first two lines weren't said in the film, Bunmi's first line wasn't said and also Ovie's first line wasn't said.

Fourth Movement

- In the published version, it was written that 'Demola takes a mouthful of rice then looks up to Keziah' but in the film, he had no rice only 1 drink.

Sixth Movement

- In the published version, Demola is said to be lying on his bed but in the film, he wasn't on a bed
- Line 8,9,12,14,15 were not used in the film version.
- In the book, Keziah woke up agitated and sobbing while in the film she did the same but slapped Demola also.
- In the book, four men were said to be bringing out some clothes under the command of Adeyoju but in the film only one man was shown
- In the book, Stella woke up after the first dream in her bed and interacted with Emmanuella after she woke up but in the film the scene of her waking up wasn't shown and she had the interaction with Emmanuella in the drying space outside

Seventh movement

- In the book, K.K gave Demola a white substance wrapped in a nylon to sniff but in the film, it was wrapped in paper

Eighth movement

- In the book, three blindfolded men were said to be kneeling down but, in the film, it was only two men
- Spark snaps his hand twice in the book but in the film he didn't
- In the book, one of the deceased cultists was called Dagen but in the film he was called Dragon

Ninth movement

- The ninth movement wasn't shown in the film

Tenth movement

- In the film, Stella wasn't bleeding after fainting and no car stopped once she got a view of Demola's lifeless body

Twelfth movement

- In the book, Stella waves goodbye after hugging Keziah but in the film stella assists Keziah into the car and follows them while sitting in the front seat of the car.

Thirteenth movement

- In the book, the DPO was referred to as a woman but in the film, it was a man that was the DPO
- In the film, the DPO instructed the two officers to ask the IPO to speed up his investigation. He also told them to make a copy of the case file and send it to the DPP for advice. Lastly, they were told to quickly conclude their investigation so that

prosecution could begin but in the book this conversation didn't happen.

#### Fourteenth movement

- In the book, Dr. Richards instructed Keziah to pick up the book from the center table and hand it to him. However, he stopped her midway and asked her to open it, revealing that there was a letter for her inside. In the film, there was no book, only the letter
- The book states that both mother and father are together in the living room with Keziah while her and Dr Richard converse but the film depicts the mother walking in on the conversation.

#### Sixteenth movement

- In the book, Dr Richard called the unborn child 'evil thing' but in the film the child was called 'bastard'
- Where the book said Keziah laid down on her left side, she was seen lying down on her right side
- There is an added scene in the film where Keziah is seen crying in her room and her mother is seen consoling her after the treatment her father gave her after he came back from work

#### Seventeenth Movement

- The only statements the prosecution and defense counsel made in the film were 'My Lord, let justice prevail. Most obliged, my Lord' and 'I, therefore, plead my Lord that you temper justice with mercy. I rest my case'.
- The only statements the judge made in the film and also in the book were his second line, the statement 'Having looked into the facts and circumstances of this peculiar case' in his third line and his final line.
- The court clerk didn't make a single statement in the film
- The accomplices of K.K had their names mentioned in the film version of the play and their names were as follows: Torkuma Okorie, Musa Abubaker, Olupitan Steve, Sebiotimo Philips
- In the book, the judge was stated to have glasses but, in the film, he had no glasses
- In the book K. K's mother is mentioned while in the film she has no single appearance.

#### Eighteenth Movement

- In the book, Dr Richards was said to be sitting at the back of a Toyota Venza but in the film, he was seen sitting at the back of a Toyota Sienna

#### Nineteenth Movement

- The story here was in the twenty first movement in the films story approach
- Mrs. Diran wasn't in this movement neither did she appear in the film
- Some of Mrs. Diran's lines were used as lines for Engineer Diran in the film
- The part where K.K brings out a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Diran was scrapped in the film
- Lines for Mrs. Diran that were scrapped in the film are her second, third, fourth,

**fifth, sixth and seventh line in the book**

**Twentieth Movement**

- Keziah was said to be lying down on her bed in the book but in the film, she was on a couch

**Twenty First Movement**

- Mrs. Diran was said to be dead in the film

- After the twenty first movement in the film, a scene was done where Keziah was in labour, called for her mother who came, called Dr Richards, told him they were heading to the hospital and that he should meet them there after which she helped Keziah to the hospital.

**Twenty Second Movement**

- The scene inside the labour room wasn't shown in the film version

**Note: The twenty third movement wasn't acted in the film; Keziah's daughter was called Maurita in the book but was called Heritage Demola-Diran in the film;**

