

NAME :Ogbuagu Nzube Blaise

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DEPARTMENT: MEDICINE AND SURGERY

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 analysis of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom.
3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM

GOOD MORNING SODOM is a master piece written by Dr Solomon Edebor in 2014 and I will be analysing the book as follows.

1) **The Thematic Thrusts**

A) Peer pressure: Peer pressure was a theme in drama that was deeply talked on. This theme was shown in the character of Demola and how he allowed the bad influences he met in the university pressure him into doing things he didn't want to do. One of the instances of this theme took place in the twenty first movement where K.K and Bentol were seen trying to convince Demola to drug Keziah with Bentol even saying, "Relax, Demo. You are running ahead of yourself unnecessarily. This thing is not as bad as you are picturing it, and believe me, you will enjoy it." This statement above made by Bentol to Demola goes a long way to show how people especially in the university are pressured by their friends to do what is wrong under the guise of "It is not as bad as you think". Good Morning Sodom goes an extra step to show us the effects of peer pressure in a persons life by showing us not just how peer pressure ruined Demola's life but also also ruined the life of the woman he claimed to love , Keziah. Another victim of peer pressure in Good Morning Sodom was Keziah herself who would have not fallen into demola's trap if she didn't scum to negative peer pressure from her coursemates, Ovie and Bunmi. The instances of peer pressure in a students life can not be understated. It come in a multitude of ways some times it could be ones coursemates, his colleagues, his friends or atimes even lecturers. Nevertheless Good Morning Sodom does a fantastic job showing us how this could ruine a persons life take for instance Demola's death .

B) Unwanted Pregnancy: Good Morning Sodom highlight s the pain and anguish women go through because of unwanted pregnancy, sadly this pain is not only a burden to them but to their families as well. Dr Solomon Edebor highlights some of the pain the family of a girl that has gotten unwanted pregnancy face in the

fourteenth movement when Dr Richards said to Keziah "Your are a disgrace to this family, to my name and everything we stand for. Now we will be objects of ridicule everywhere! Among Friends! Our neighbors! Is that the reward for all the efforts we made to give you the best in life? Was it that we failed to live up to your expectations as parents?" This statement showed disappointment. The author carries on to further show us the effects that unwanted pregnancy can have on the family of the girl when in the sixteenth movement we see Dr and Mrs Richards arguing wether Keziah should have gotten an abortion . On one had Dr Richards argues on how the child Keziah now carries will disrupt her education while Mrs Richards argues that abortion does not only pose a health risk to their daughter but also involves taking the life of an innocent child oblivious to what that child may become in future. Finally, Dr Edebor dived deeply into this theme of unwanted pregnancy and showed us how it could ruine not just their academic life but also their existence as a human being as shown when Keziah wanted to commit suicide.

C)Cultism :

Cultism in student life as well as its implications on the lives of the students was another theme explored in Good Morning Sodom. The author gives a brief but clear mental picture in our heads of the occultic processes involved in the initiation into a cult group. The author also goes a long way to show us the end which most people who join cult eventually meet . This is shown in fifthteenth movement where the students who were caught in the act of cultism were expelled some arrested. This play also shows us the tragic end some cult members face, this was shown in Demola's death. Additional, Dr Solomon Edebor shows us how cultism can take a bright intelligent man's future and turn it into ashes.

D) Justice: "*Fiat justitia ruat caelum*" meaning Let justice be done though heavens fall. This is a theme which was portrayed in the seventeenth movement. In this movement we can see the defence counsel trying to plead with the judge so that justice may be tempered with mercy however the prosecution counsel convinces the judging saying, " our sympathy must not cloud our judgement." The judge expressed his disheartening feeling over the high rate of social vices among students and expressed that appropriate punishment of offenders is a way to suay others away from this social vices and thus leading to a better society.

E) Irresponsible Parenting: Irresponsible Parenting is a theme that was shown in the form of Engineer Diran and Mrs Diran. Good Morning Sodom shows us the kind of effect poor parenting can have on the child. This was shown in the twenty-first movement when Engineer Diran said,"But, that moment, we realized how we had allowed the desire to secure our children's financial future becloud our sense of duty as parents who should see to the well being of their children, not only financially and materially but also physically and psychologically..." Consequently, it was as a result of poor parenthood that drove Demola to his tragic end. This play gives us an insight to how poor parenthood could ruin the lives of not just the children but others in the society as a result of the social vices these poorly raised children will partake in. Good Morning Sodom shows us what happens if parents don't take up their roles as responsible parents . The child will go into the world and bad peers will take up that role and teach the children bad characters which their parents ought to have guided them away from.

2) **Analysis of Characters:**

A) Keziah: Keziah happens to be one of the main characters in this play. Keziah is a polite young 200 level students at Mayflower University. She is shown to be polite when she referred to her driver ,Olumide, as uncle Olumide. The play portrays Keziah as a hard working , disciplined and goal-oriented students . Throughout the opening movements Keziah was shown to be someone who knew exactly what she wanted and her purpose in the university, this was shown in the second movement when she said,"I am here for a purpose: to study and make something worthwhile out of my life . The last thing I need for now is distraction from anyone. However, things quickly changed when Keziah gave in to peer pressure from her coursemates Ovie and Bunmi . This just goes to show that peer pressure is something that can affect anyone no matter how serious or goal focused we are in life. Although, Keziah later claimed that she was charmed by Demola. Keziah was also portrayed to be an emotional person , we can see this in the eighteenth movement when she attempted suicide due to the way her father had been treating her since she got pregnant.

B) **Demola:** Demola is a intelligent man who had a love interest in Keziah. Although Demola respected Keziah's decision not to get into anything serious at first however, he scummed to peer pressure from the likes of K.K and Bentol that convinced him to drug Keziah. It is very easy to point fingers and blame Demola for the predicament in which he found himself later on in the book , but I feel it just goes to show the negative side effects of lack of responsible

parenthood . In retrospect, one would see that Demola was a very caring person . This could be seen when he constantly asked and checked up on Keziah when she was not in school. But sadly he is just another victim of peer pressure and bad parenting.

C) **Stella:** Stella was Keziah's best roommate , this could be seen in movement 1 when Keziah told her mum that Stella had been of tremendous help to her while she said and I quote "the rest are something else. You still remember what I told you the last time? I mean about the life style they live. Although Stella went through her fair share of hardship following her rape and burning of her clothes coupled to her attempted suicide but in the end gave her life to Christ which showed how emotionally strong she was. Stella was the friend that was always there for Keziah even when she fainted , stella was the one that called Mrs. Richards.

3) **DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BOOK AND THE MOVIE**

- According to the movie Keziah's daughter was named heritage Demola-Diran but in the book she is named Mouritha.
- According to the movie Demola's mother was dead while in the book Demola's mother was still alive.
- The 19th movement was not shown in the movie.
- In the movie 2 people burnt her cloth in the book 4 people burnt her cloth.
- In the book Emmanuella entered Stella's room to speak to her while in the movie Emmanuella came when stella was packing her cloth.

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- In the book stella explained the full story of her rape in the bed room with Keziah while in the movie it was explained both in the room and while walking.
- The 9th movement was not shown in the movie.
- In the book 3 cultists were apprehended in the movie 4 cultists were apprehended.
- In the movie the DPO is a man in the book the DPO is a woman.