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100LVL

1.ATTEMPT A INCISIVE INTERROGATION OF SOLOMON A. EDEBOR'S GOOD MORNING, SODOM,UNDESCORING AT LEAST FIVE UNDERLYING THEMATIC THRUSTS THE DRAMA ENGAGES.

Good morning Sodom is a expository play, it not only exposes the ills in our higher institution but our country as a whole. There are several issues discussed in the play. Firstly, negative peer influence. This is a majorly portrayed in the play, Keziah and Demola are victims of peer pressure, they are both convinced by friends to make decisions, that led to their downfall, Demola is influenced to rape Keziah and join cult which leads to his untimely death while Keziah listens to her friends advice on befriending Demola which leads to her rape. Their awful endings in the play is used to portray the negative effects of peer influence. Many student in universities are victims of peer pressure, they go in as one person and come out as a totally different being, it is an unfortunate virus that has infected many children, although it cannot be totally curbed as it is a personal battle but it can be avoided best by inculcating good values and self respect in our children.

Furthermore, the dangers of cultism. Demola and KK are used to portray this issue. Many students are introduced into cultism without knowing the full consequences of their decision, plays like this are ventured on creating awareness on the evils of this practice. Demola's death is used to portray the numerous cases of loss of lives as a result of cult shootings and operations, the expulsion students who were involved is used to show the high level of college dropping out as result of engaging in cultism, the punishment given to the offenders was said to 'serve as a deterrent to other youths in and out of our institutions of higher learning. Cultism is a very dangerous practice and this play serves as a warning to students all over our country to avoid falling victims of this evil.

Moreover, the playwright also discusses the issue of lack of parental care; Many parents are just like Demola's parents, they believe its the job of a parent to provide the basic physical needs of their children and that's it but it goes way more than that children need time and emotional affection from their parents. Demola's parents used their wealth alone as a medium of taking care of their child neglecting his other needs like good moral training, love and affection this lead to his bad decisions later in his life which they ended up regretting this serves as a reminder to parents to focus on other needs of their children other than their physical needs. Keziah's dad is another character whom depicted this theme, his inability to support Keziah in her time of dilemma just symbolises parents who find it difficult to understand their children, being so harsh on children can lead to resentment and many other negative effects, it is only when Keziah attempts suicide that he is able to come to his senses and retrace his steps but that is not always the case not all children survive suicide and so parents should be careful on how they treat their children.

Inability of constituted authorities to take decisive steps towards curbing the menace in society is another issue discussed in the play. In the play the school authorities are not shown to actively

put in an effort towards protecting their students from this vices until it becomes a full blown issue and results in students losing their lives, the school here is a reflection of society and how our so called government and its officials are so busy looting and are totally indifferent on the situation of citizens in their country. Crime rate increases everyday, the number of death increases too but these authorities are unable to curb this vices, this is not only an outcry to universities to take this issues seriously but nigerian as a country.

Lastly, the issue of abortion. The issue of abortion is discussed subtly in the play. Due to Keziah's unwanted pregnancy, her parents are left to decide if she would keep the baby. Keziah's dad symbolizes hypocrites in our society whom preach negatively against abortion but do otherwise when in the situation while her mom shows those people who stay true to their beliefs. At the end of the play, Keziah's parents decide on her keeping the baby this decision is used to appeal to members of our society to stop this barbaric practice, every soul has a potential and by carrying out abortions this potentials are disposed in the graves. Abortion is murder and is therefore a sin.

2. ATTEMPT DETAILED ANALYSES OF ANY THREE CHARACTERS IN SOLOMON.A.EDEBOR'S GOOD MORNING SODOM

DEMOLA

Demola is Keziah's course mate, he is a tall dark handsome young man. Demola is strongly affected by peer pressure which leads to his downfall in the play, he is influenced negatively by a higher level student K.K who advises him to rape his course mate and love interest, Keziah, he also influences him to join cult which leads to his death in the play. The character Demola is used by playwright to symbolize the effect of peer pressure in higher institution. Just like many students in our country today, he is introduced to vices like drug intake, cultism and rape, he's character shows the unfortunate ending of partakers of this hideous activities, students like this are prone to expulsion, death and many unpleasant occurrence. He also used to show the dangers of cultism. He dies in an a physical altercation between two cult groups, he is in fact killed by a member of his own party and friend KK. Demola is not the only victim of this conflict this shows how innocent lives are lost during cult battles, it could also lead to death or expulsion on the path of the cultist. At the end of the play the awareness on the dangers of cultism is improved, this serves as a reminder to universities to take the issue of cultism seriously.

KEZIAH

Keziah is the protagonist in the play. She is a fair, medium height, young lady in her late teens. She is a very focused student with strong values and a good home training. She is unfortunately tricked and raped by her course mate Demola. Her character represents many young girls who are victims of trickery and rape, who are left with the stigma of the incident, just as she attempts suicide, most victims are left with the trauma and often resort to suicide. Her parents reaction to her pregnancy is used to portray the effect of empathy and support towards others, her mum remains supportive unlike her dad who shows with resentment which leads to her attempting suicide at the end of the play. Her experience in

the play is used to advise readers on how to go about trusting others and vice versa, she grows friendly with Demola even to the extent of trusting him enough to be in his room alone with him and she is proved wrong by his actions, the safest prevention of this situation is by keeping to oneself cause no book can be judged by its cover. She is also a victim of peer influence as she is influenced by her friends, Ovie and Bumni to become friendly with Demola which leads to her downfall in the play, it is therefore a safer decision to trust your own instincts as a person rather to given in to advices that don't sit right with one's beliefs. Her experiences also depict the challenges and distractions that one is prone to face as a student, being focused and true to one's values and beliefs is the only way to get through this challenges, peer pressure especially.

STELLA

Stella is Keziah's roommate. She confides in her and tells her of her dilemma, as a fellow victim of rape she is able to relate and tells Keziah of her past experiences. She is an inspiring character, her story is not only heartening to Keziah but the audience also. Her story is used to show the effect of rape on its victim, She was raped as a young girl of fourteen as a result of this she loses her faith in God, when she gets into higher institution she uses it as a medium to explore her freedom, she then starts taking part in certain hideous activities like prostitution in order to ease her pain and stigma and also as a reciprocal action to God for allowing her to get raped, her coping mechanism for her rape is very similar to many other victims in our society, they involve themselves in worse and more self deminishing activities just to feel better but her character is a symbol to show that engaging in such activities is not a way to cope it just reduces one's self esteem more. Her redemption story is used to promote the idea of second chances. No matter how destroyed one might feel it is not too late to turn back just like Stella did, anyone can indeed be redeemed.

3. WHAT ARE THE POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND THE FILM VERSION OF GOOD MORNING, SODOM?

- i) Keziah's physical appearance is different in the film. In the published version she is described as a fair young lady with newly plaited hair while in the film she is a dark lady with a wig.
- ii) The setting of some scenes are different in both versions. In the published version, Stella's encounter with Emanuella was in a room while it was outside while Stella was doing her laundry. Also in the published version Demola meets Ovie and Bumni as they walk out of class but in the film they are sitting together in class when they have the discussion concerning Keziah.
- iii) In the published version Stella wakes up from a dream (her experience with the man in khaki shirt at the river) before she hears a knock at her door then her encounter with Emanuella but in the film her encounter with the man in khaki shirt is rather a trance than a dream.
- iv) In the published version, in the cult initiation scene, three young men are blindfolded and on their knees, these young men are the new members who had just been initiated at that cult meeting, when

unmasked Demola is one of them while in the film Demola is portrayed to be a member even before that day as he isn't part of the blindfolded men.

v)The scene in the ninth movement and twenty third movement of the published version isn't present in the film.

vi)In the film Demola's death is exposed to the audience before Keziah but in the published version both the audience and Keziah discover this at the same time.

vii)In the film four cultists are caught while in the published version only three are caught.

viii)The incidence where two students are scolded by Dr Yusuf for arriving late to class is only present in the film, it isn't shown in the published version.

ix)In the film the audience is only showed the judge's final judgement on the cultists' case while in the published version the audience is exposed to the whole court debate.

X)In the film Keziah's daughter is named Heritage Demola-Diran awhile in the published version She goes by the name Mouritha.