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Assignment:

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

## Question 1;

### Answer:

#### 1. THE THEME OF UNWANTED PREGNANCY:

A pregnancy is said to be unwanted when the baby conceived was not planned for or per say the mother didn't plan on having the child and then feels sad, has negative emotions on the thought of going through with the pregnancy. We see a case of an unwanted pregnancy when Keziah got pregnant during the play. Keziah didn't want to have the child because it wasn't planned for and also because the father of the child raped her and that isn't something any mother would be proud of. Not only did she not choose nor plan for the child but she also did not choose to have the sex which led to the child's conception. Along with that pain and trauma, Keziah was a young girl in the university, it wasn't an ideal period for her to be have a child especially with the circumstances concerning its conception. When women get pregnant and do not want the child meaning they do not want to carry the pregnancy to term and conceive the baby, decisions have to be made on what to do about the pregnancy. The playwright seems to have made his position on unwanted pregnancy clear by not allowing Keziah to follow her father's initial advice to get an abortion. The playwright is most likely to be against abortion for reasons best know to him. But I am simply of the belief that the best choice should be made for mother and child. An abortion is not an ideal choice so unwanted pregnancies are not ideal either. Also carrying a pregnancy to term and conceiving a child that you did not initially want or plan for is also not ideal. All the options are difficult and not ideal so unwanted pregnancies are better avoided all together. From what I read; I believe the playwright was trying to pass that across as well. We should all try to abstain from sex before so that pregnancies can be planned for, expected and create joy in families. And even if they decide to have sex, they should endeavor to have safe sex only to prevent unwanted pregnancies. Preventing unwanted pregnancies would prevent all the issues and pain caused to Keziah and her family as a result of her pregnancy as well as the changes in her life that it caused- such as making her stop school for a while. The play also sent a message to people especially girls to be extremely careful and to not trust people easily to avoid a lot of mishap like ; being sexually assaulted, abused or raped and so on. Keziah on her own did nothing wrong except for trust Demola that she could go to his house to do an assignment without him doing anything to her against her will. So, we should endeavor to avoid being in certain situations or positions so as to avoid Regrets.

#### 2. THE THEME OF LACK OF PROPER PARENTAL GUIDANCE:

Lack of parental Guidance simply meaning when parents are not hands on in raising children. They raise their children in a careless manner perhaps through other people especially domestic help in a way that their children have so much freedom to the point where the child behaves like he / She doesn't have a parent or a Guardian(Any guidance). Children with parents who don't check up on them also watch them can be easily influenced and can get away with various negative actions in their household due to their parents' indifference. Demola's parents, Engr. And Mrs. Diran admitted themselves that in raising Demola they overemphasized or only focused on the financial aspect of parenting, neglecting all other aspects. The financial aspect of parenting and securing your child's future is indeed crucial but to raise a complete child that will do well, you have to give all the aspects of wellness proper attention- aspects such as spiritual wellness, mental and emotional wellness, physical wellness and not just financial wellness. Demola's parents clearly succeeded in the financial aspect that they focused on. Demola came from an affluent home and had more than enough funds to the point where he drew the attention of K.K. and also talked him into getting his parents to acquire an accommodation outside his school for him. It was also clear that Demola's parents failed in a lot of aspect of parenting. It was so easy for K.K. to enter his life, influence him and then became the parent his parents wasn't to him. His parents simply acted mostly on his financial needs and did not parent him well; by giving him regularly check and all also at least know him well to even detect if he's lying or not about the fact that the hostel wasn't able to accommodate all the students demola lied to them and told them he had to then live off campus. Demola was easily influenced, changed and then was controlled by K.K. because his moral background and foundation were not strong. They couldn't be a sorry

that's not I was raised in any of the situations instead demola just followed K.K instructions without knowing that the advice and instructions given to him by k.k wasn't good or Maybe he did know but they wasn't anyone to correct him to take the right track away from. The bad companies he had. If Demola's parents did try their best in raising him in every aspect, he would have ended up good. But I think the playwright is trying to show the effects of lack of proper parenting guidance. Indifferent parenting can also pose on the youth and not just all the other issues and influences that exist in higher institutions that they have to strive to avoid. Certain things that happened to Demola or that he did could have been avoided if he had a stronger moral foundation or had parents that were very present in his life so he wouldn't need to look for parentage outside. If Demola's parents were not indifferent with him maybe he would have been more resistant to K.K.'s negative influence which led him to rape, drug and charm Keziah, get an accommodation outside campus so he can be less monitored, join a cult, use drugs and eventually fall victim to an early grave.

### **3.THEME OF PEER PRESSURE :**

In this context, we discuss peer pressure as a theme in Good morning Sodom;

Peer pressure in the form of rape, drug abuse and cultism, rape and cultism are more prominent in the play as we look at drug abuse, in the play Demola stated "Not again, not this time the last one nearly caused me an accident". Then was offered a white substance I assume as cocaine by K.K. In truth drug abuse is one of the major things that most students in school get influenced or pressured to do. We also look at rape, an act committed by Demola but which he was influenced into doing it which nearly cost Keziah her life. Keziah's rape was a major plot point in the play that changed the whole direction of the story. Lastly cultism, a deadly social vice which has taken the lives of many students, in the play Demola is initiated into the Red shadows a cult group which he was introduced into by K.K. who seemed the root of all mishap in the play, not only because he urged Demola to rape Keziah but also introduced him to drug abuse and cultism and shot him. So ultimately Demola joined the cult at night and then was found dead the next morning. Assuming demola wasn't easily influenced none of these would have happened.

### **4. THE THEME OF BETRAYAL :**

In this context, we discuss the betrayal of Keziah's trust by Demola. At the beginning of Dr. Solomon Edebor's good morning Sodom Keziah reassures her mom that she knows why she was at the university and that she was mature enough to face her studies alone. Therefore, she stood her ground while associating with Demola, paying no heed to his advances even saying "Demola, I am not a baby, you know, I know what boys like you are after...". Demola proved persistent as he kept on chasing after her, gaining the trust of Bunmi and Ovie, Keziah's course mates (or perhaps friends per say). They then told Keziah that they felt Demola was different and that he genuinely cared for her, this played its role in getting Keziah to trust Demola, as in the next movement we find Keziah seated in Demola's house. In that same movement Keziah's trust was then betrayed and shattered as Demola drugged and raped her. This led to so many problems for Keziah including unwanted pregnancy, her father's rejection and an attempted suicide.

### **5. From the theme above I then bring up my next theme;**

### **THE THEME OF REJECTION :**

In this Theme we going to focus on the attitude of Dr. Richards after finding out that his daughter was pregnant for a boy who had been murdered and suspected of cultism. In the play, Dr. Richards said to his wife "You heard me! As a matter of fact, she ceased to be my daughter that very day she brought shame on this family with that evil thing in her womb, which you willfully accepted!". Here we not only see the rejection of Keziah but the baby in her womb. Keziah who overheard this conversation Dr. Richards had with his wife decided to commit suicide and if not for timely intervention would have lost her life and that of the baby.

## **Question 2;**

## **Answer**

### **1. Keziah Richards:**

Keziah is a 200-level student studying English in Mayflower University, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richards. She is described as a medium height, slightly rotund, fair young lady. She accepts the friendship of Demola - a course mate, after a long time his persistent advances and a little persuasion from Ovie and Bunmi, her other course mates. One day, she was lured to Demola's house off campus under the cover of getting help for an assignment, where she was drugged and raped. Devastated by this she proceeds to cut off all ties she had with Demola, only few days Demola had been killed in a cult clash and then after a while was then informed that she was carrying his child. This news did not go well with her parents, particularly her father, who decided that she was no longer his daughter due to the shame and disgrace she had brought upon the family. The ill-feelings her father bore her did not go unseen, this brought her so much pain and ultimately made her to attempt suicide. Luckily and due to timely intervention by her father taking her to the hospital, the doctor, her life and that of her unborn child was spared, after this happened her father realized his mistakes then accepted I

Keziah back as his daughter. After a while keziah enters labor and after the whole pain and all she was able to push through she then safely delivered a baby girl . By the end of the play she was enrolled into the University of Ibadan with the help of her parents and then continuing from where she stopped in her previous university setting the stage for everything to return back to normal.

## 2. DEMOLA DIRAN :

Demola a 200-level student who was in the English department in Mayflower University, who was the son of Engineer Diran and Mrs. Diran. Demola's story was a sad story as it ended on one. Demola was Introduced as a tall, dark and handsome young man, who harbored romantic feelings for a course mate, Keziah Richards. He was also noted to have persistently gone after her in his pursuit for love, which she eventually succumbed to. What started out as a seemingly harmless love story quickly devolved into one of rape, abuse and regret. Demola drugged and raped Keziah after luring her to his house in the name of helping her with an assignment. He was filled with regret and shame in the aftermath of his crime and even tried apologizing to Keziah who made it clear that she wanted nothing to do with him, and hoped they'd never crossed paths again, which incidentally was the last time they saw each other again. It was revealed that Demola was introduced to drug abuse and had been heavily influenced negatively by Nkanga Nwonko also called K.K. an upperclassman and a member of the Red Shadows cult group, K.K. later introduced him to cultism and then was also responsible for shooting him dead. Demola story was indeed a tragedy.

## 3 Character;

### NKANGA NWOKO (K.K) :

Nkanga Nwoko also known as K.K is a 400-level student studying English in Mayflower University, he is the only surviving child of his widowed mother, Mrs. Nkanga. He was first introduced after Keziah cuts all ties with Demola leaving him in sullen state, K.K. then shows up to cheer him up and then offered him hard drugs. It was then revealed that K.K and his comrade Bentol were the masterminds behind Keziah's rape. After the death of Demola Diran the Police crack down on the cultists and raid their hideouts in the process K.K was captured. After the court proceeding he was given a life imprisonment sentence. After having time reflecting in Agobi prison, K.K asked for a chance to meet with Demola's parents to convey to them their son's apology before his death and confesses that he was responsible for al the things that happened to Demola including introducing him to hard drugs, planning Keziah's rape and ultimately killing him.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Question;

### Answer:

For me the point of divergence between the published book and the film version are;

1. In the book, demola was among the three (3) new recruited cult members and was at the middle during the initiation into the cult group but in the film demola was already a member meaning he wasn't among the three people that Joined newly that day but was already a member.
2. The DPO who helped in the investigation of finding out what happened and who was responsible for the situation was a woman in the published book but in the film the DPO was a man.
3. In the book Demola's mother was alive and was with her husband during the whole incident that happened to their son and didn't pass away but in the film Demola's mother had already died.

These were the few points of divergence I was able to notice.

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