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AFE 122

## Good Morning, Sodom

A play by Solomon Adedokun Edebor

This play is a looking glass into the causes and effects of the various atrocities that continuously riddle the nation's campuses. It identifies such factors like lack of surveillance, substance abuse and inability of the appropriate authorities to take relevant measures towards ameliorating these negative practices.

### Themes found in the play

- Peer pressure: One of the most prominent themes that can be found in this play. It is the push that spurred most of the characters into performing their actions.

Demola may have originally had noble intentions towards Keziah. We can imagine that Demola must have been at the very least a good and upstanding student at some point, but the constant pushes from his friend, the cult member K.K, which he gave into led him down a terrible path, eventually leading to his death. We can also see that Keziah was not a

totally stupid girl. She at first resists Demola's advances but eventually she starts to get close to him and she has her friends like Ovie and Bunmi telling her that he is not like other boys and he is actually good and will treat her well, she lets her guard down and that is how it lead to the series of events that threatened to ruin her life.

- Cultism: Cultism is of course an old phenomenon in our nation, particularly on University campuses.

In the play there are the infamous red shadows of which K.K is a member and he eventually convinces Demola to join. The cult gets captured after an anonymous tip off to the police reveals their hideout. The members of the cult are sentenced to life imprisonment meanwhile Demola suffers a tragic death at the hands of a rival cult member during one of their shootouts.

- Rape: The rape of Keziah is sad and also extremely significant towards the plot of the play.

Keziah initially resisted Demola's advances and he decided to listen to the advice of K.K and chose to drug her and rape her, Then he comes to her to apologise like its supposed to make the situation better. It can also be seen in the rape of Stella. It does however try to show that no situation is ever as bad as we might think it is and there is always hope in the darkness.

- Stigmatization: In the case of the rape of Keziah, her father , the person who is supposed to love and support her more than anyone else is the person who looks at he disdainfully and treats her like nothing more than a piece of trash.

In the case of stella, the church was more concerned with its image than the rape victim. Due to the church's influence Stella's parents did not press charges against her rape victims but instead chose to move as a consolation and probably due to the whispers that would undoubtedly surface after such incident.

- Suicide: Taking your own life should never be an option no matter how dire the situation you find yourself in.

In both Stella and Keziah's lives they concluded that since such bad events had happened to them they should just forfeit their life to end all the suffering they have had to ignore. Neither succeed in trying to take their lives however, and instead they find peace and happiness and the will to continue living.

## Character analysis

- Keziah: Keziah is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs Richards and was an undergraduate student at Mayflower University until a series of events took her away from her education, at least for a while.

Keziah can be described as a very smart and determined teenager who planned on focusing on her studies and making her parents proud. She is very headstrong about her goals and is a little harsh to anyone she determines will interfere with or stand in the way of these goals of hers.

- Demola: Demola was the son of Engr. and Mrs. Diran. He was an undergraduate at Mayflower University. He fell in with the wrong people and ended up dead due to his choices. He was a good enough person towards the beginning of the play, but as he continued to fall under the influences of his friend and he raped Keziah, his life seemed to fall apart.

He was very persistent about what he wanted and he did not give up no matter what.

- Dr. Richards: He is Keziah's father. He can be described as very close minded at the point where he discovers his daughter's pregnancy. He does not even listen to her explanation about the rape but immediately condemns her and treats her disdainfully from that point until Keziah tries to kill herself. He eventually comes to his senses and does his best to be a good father to her.

Points of divergence between the text and movie of Good morning, Sodom.

- In the book the D.P.O was a woman while in the movie it was a man playing that part.
- In the book Keziah is described with plaited hair while in the movie she wears a Wig.
- In the book Keziah's father came to the hospital after Keziah fainted and took her home while in the movie her father was not there.
- In the book, during the ninth movement, there were gun shots heard from outside being made by the rival culture groups, while in the movie there were no gun shots.