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COURSE: AFE 122 Good Morning Sodom (A PLAY)

A) Theme of parental responsibility and care.

The responsibility of Keziah's father, Dr Aworayo Richards lost his sense of duty and responsibility in his pool of anger towards Keziah. He could barely look at her as his own daughter, without having knowledge of the situation surrounding how she was raped and impregnated. Unknowingly he created a hole in his daughter's heart with slowly led to her intake of drugs with the intension of killing herself and her baby in trying to relief her father's burden and shame which she caused

What she needed the most at the time was support, care and love, which her mother showed her but was difficult for Dr Richard, as he even criticizes her mum for accepting such baby

Dr Richards duty of responsibility, care and guidance as a parent was lost. This almost led to the death of his beloved daughter, this should act as an eye opener to all parent, parental love and care should not be situational but unconditional. they should carry out their duty even in pain, as not to cause more pain or loos themselves, they must learn to find a way to be and show love and support to their children

In the case of Damola's family, his parent totally failed to do their duty as parents in checking up on him and ensuring his safety and this is one of the factors responsible for him being easily swept off his feet by KK. If only they pay closer attention to their son, Demola just maybe they wouldn't have cried out wishing they had done better for him.



B) Theme of love

The theme of love is not greatly portrayed as much as parental responsibility and negative influence. One who thoroughly looks through the play would see that the love Demola always had for Keziah was genuine, but with great fault. When advised by KK to use the charmed hankie on Keziah, he refused saying he has tried on many occasions to invite her over to his house. But the influence of KK on him we can say is stronger than the love he has for Keziah. This love can be seen as a romantic love or rather infatuation, but the love Keziah had for Demola at that point was nothing more than likeness as a friend.

Also love is portrayed in Keziah's relationship with her parents, from the first movement we could see that Keziah is filled with so much joy and happiness just from seeing her mum, when she notices the absence of her father, she becomes pensive. Her mother's love for her doesn't reduce even after getting informed about Keziah's pregnancy. Her mother even tried to talk to her father to try and show support to his daughter

Without the love in Mr. Richards eyes, she couldn't survive the hatred her father had for her. His repulsive attitude towards her led her to have suicidal thoughts. We can say that it was the lack of her father's love that dragged her to attempt committing suicide

C) Theme of Negative peer influence: This Theme has been vividly painted in the Play. The negative peer influence of K.K and Bentol on Demola .From the start of the play, at the second movement trying to get his way with her. We can clearly see that he is interested in her as a lady, but Keziah does not give him her attention. She is concerned more on her studies than she is about Demola as she even sees him as a distraction.

However, we figure out later on in the course of the Play that Demola is actually in love with Keziah and succumbs to his friend's advice, K.K. KK is a cultist who is responsible



for the making Demola do “many terrible things” and is also responsible for his death.

Bentol and KK’s negative influence on Demola started as a result of Demola’s wealthy lifestyle. He notices his love for Keziah as sees her nonchalance as he advises Demola to rape Keziah, giving him an hankie that has been charmed ,to enable Demola have his way with Keziah. KK is also responsible for encouraging Demola to take drugs and harmful substance, even when Demola insists. His influence on him was heightened when he introduces him to cultism, which later led to his death by KK himself.

The theme of negative peer pressure is evidently portrayed in this story. Even in the life of Stella, after been raped by four boys taking turns on her. She succumbs to the lifestyle till God later captures her through dreams on two different occasions

D)Theme of measures towards social-vice: The tendencies of students to cause harm is vividly portrays by the playwright, together with appropriate measures to curb the social-vices in the society as a whole. The danger, misfortune, harm and loss that the ‘Red Shadows’ caused in their fight with ‘the sparrow’, is a portrayal of the harm and loss that happens in the society as a whole

The punishments given to KK and his fellow cultists was to show that whatever situation that culprits of any social vice is going through they should be punished equally for their crimes. There shouldn’t be any excuse why they shouldn’t be punished, like the defense counsel pleaded for from the Judge. There must be punishments metered out, so as to act as a measure to reduce the level of crime rate. If not no one would learn from the experience of such evil people.

Both designated authorities in higher institutions and constituted authorities should have punishments for crimes and they must ensure they are properly laid in order to curb the crime rates in the society as a whole and in the lives of vulnerable students like Demola.

E) Theme of hope:

Stella Keziah’s roommate is the center of this theme. After Keziah had been raped by Demola,



she was seen crying in her room when Stella tells her Everything would be fine, she carried inside herself hope, because she was in a worst situation than Keziah. She shares her story of been ganged raped by her pastor's son and his friends.

Stella questions herself, asking "when will they(men) realise that we are like flowers that radiate beauty but get marred once we are violently plucked? When?'. She believed that Keziah could go back to her normal lifestyle without becoming friends with Demola again. She is responsible for giving hope to Keziah that she could stand on her two feet once again, stronger and better. If we notice properly Stella is present in times when Keziah has lost hope, we can simply say she is light at the end of Keziah's tunnel

2 A) Keziah:

Keziah is the daughter of Dr and Mrs Richards. She is an undergraduate of Mayflower University. She is the protagonist of the play, Good Morning, Sodom. She is a very brilliant student is spends most of her time reading or engages in school activities.

She introduces the play together with her mum, as her mum comes to visit her in the absence of her dad, which cause her to be pensive but immediately becomes cheerful after she was told that her dad would gift her for his absence. In the next movement she is approached by a handsome guy, Demola. From their conversation, we can see that it was not the first time he had tried to approach her to talk with her, in regards to dating her. As always she turned deaf ears to him as she makes her way to the library

Furthermore, we are surprised by the turn of events later lead to being raped by Demola after the unfortunate event that she passes through, she once again loathes Demola is had to experience such dreadful event while trying to be his friend.

In addition, after the death of Demola by KK his friend in an unfortunate event. We find out that Demola had impregnated Keziah. With the anger and pain showered on Keziah by her father, she attempts suicide by intake of drugs. Luckily she and her baby survives. She later gives birth to a baby girl, Mouritha. Keziah later completes her studies in the University of Ibadan and moves out there to study with her baby and a care taker

B) Mr Richards:



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Mr Richards is the father of Keziah. He has a major character in the theme of Parental responsibility. At the first movement, we were made to understand that he wasn't able to come visit his daughter because of an unforeseen trip. He allowed anger towards Keziah to distract him from carrying out his parental responsibility. After finding out that Keziah had been raped after visiting Demola at his house and goes further by blaming her. He even opines to Mrs Richards that the baby should be aborted at an early stage of pregnancy as he doesn't support the birth of such baby. He later regrets his actions when his loath towards his daughter pushes her to attempt suicide. He is the one who sees her suicide note, rushing to her room to see her unconscious on the floor

Mr Richards makes up to Keziah after being discharged from the hospital. Both the father and the daughter apologies for the actions and misconduct He even helps her get admission into the University of Ibadan, to allow her change her location and continue her education

C) Doctor Hanson:

Doctor Hanson is not a major character in the Play. He is the chief Medical Director of Emamuzo Specialist Hospital. He is seen in movement eighteen and twenty-two. He was responsible for flushing Keziah's system of the drugs she took to kill herself and also the delivery of her baby.

3) THE POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND FILMED VERSION OF THE PLAY GOOD MORNING SODOM

- 1) In the book the DPO was a woman, while in the film version the DPO was a man.
- 2) in the film version four cultist were apprehended by the police but in the book only three were apprehended.
- 3) In the film version the character Mrs Diran did not exist, but in the book there was a character known as Mrs Diran.
- 4) In the film version the child Keziah gave birth to was named Heritage while in the book, the name of the child was Mouritha.



5) in the film version, the lecturer sent two students out of the class because they came late for the lecture but in movement three of the book, no student came late to the class.

6) in the film version Demola was already a cultist but in the book, Demola was just initiated into the cult group.



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