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COURSE: AFE 122
MATRIC NUMBER:22/LAW01/145

ASSIGNMENT QUESTION.

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?

THEMATIC THRUSTS OF SOLOMON A. EDEBOR'S GOOD MORNING, SODOM.

1. Theme of Justice
2. Theme of peer pressure
3. Theme of forgiveness
4. Theme of inadequate parenting
5. Theme of rape

Theme of Justice

The truth was finally discovered and all members of the cult were captured and taken to court. There was a trial and the prosecution counsel pleaded guilty to the crimes they were charged for. The defense counsel requested that the punishment given to the accused should be reduced because they pleaded guilty whereas the prosecution said they should their punishment just the way it is stated in the constitution. Justice prevailed above all and the defense served their appropriate sentence.

Theme of peer influence

There are two major instances of peer influence in this drama with Demola and Keziah as victims. In movement five, Keziah was pressurized by her friends, Ovie and Bunmi to go out with Demola, who had been asking her out for a while, but she constantly refused his proposal. After a while and pressure from her friends, she finally decided to see him and that led to her rape. Another victim of peer pressure

was Demola. He was advised by his friend K.K to rape Keziah when she goes to visit him at his house. He bluntly refused at first, but finally gave into it and accepted a charmed handkerchief that was used to perpetuate the evil and raped her afterwards. Peer influence is usually a negative one.

Theme of forgiveness

Forgiveness is a deliberate, conscious decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance towards a person or a group of persons who had harmed or hurt you regardless of whether they deserved it or not. Dr and Mrs Richards forgave their daughter, Keziah. Although it took a while for her dad because he was deeply hurt, he finally accepted her. The deep love he had for his daughter after she tried to kill herself conquered all the anger he harbored and he forgave her.

Theme of inadequate parenting

This theme is one of the major causes of social vices in the community and the country at large. As portrayed by Demola's parent in the play, they are seen as the type of parents that are always busy, with hardly any time to properly care for their child. As expected, Demola went on a wrong path, he had no one to talk to and thus, sought care and advice from all the wrong places. He was eventually led astray by his circle of friends and had to pay for his mistakes with his life.

Theme of rape

This is an important theme in the play "Good morning, Sodom". It was found in the sixth movement where Keziah went to Demola's house for an assignment and was offered a drink. He eventually brought out a handkerchief that had been drugged and used it to wipe her face. She immediately lost control after sniffing it and fell unconscious afterwards. Demola raped her then. Stella, Keziah's friend was also raped at the age of fourteen. She was raped by four boys in her pastor's home after she was deceived to go into the room by two boys who she was familiar with. Rape is a wicked act and usually has a psychological effect on the victim.

Analysis of characters in Good Morning, Sodom.

1. Keziah:

This is the main character in the play "Good Morning, Sodom". She is portrayed as an ambitious girl who is in pursuit for a bright future for herself. It is obvious in the play that she has a good relationship with her parents and is determined to make them proud. She doesn't spend all her time in school chasing boys and encouraging them to chase her as well. One can tell that she had no interest whatsoever in being friends with Demola or any other boy at all. She paid Demola no attention initially until she was eventually influenced to get to know him. We can also confidently say that she is an academically strong person and was determined to remain that way. She is also seen as one who keeps to herself and doesn't let everyone know what is

happening in her life. She is also portrayed as a stubborn, steadfast and consistent girl because she keeps declining Demola initially.

Unfortunately for her, she was betrayed and raped by him. She was heartbroken and shattered. She couldn't believe her innocence had been compromised by the same person she decided to let into her life. She goes home, and her parents found out she was pregnant which was quite shocking and disheartening because it wasn't her fault, and they had a reputation to uphold. Keziah is broken all over once again because her parents were disappointed in her. She finally attempted suicide, and was fortunate enough to be seen on time and taken to the hospital to be treated immediately. Her father then realized that he had been too harsh on her and decided to forgive her. Demola's parent found out about Demola's child, apologized and agreed to take responsibilities for their son's actions.

2. Demola:

Demola is seen as a regular teenager at the beginning of the play who is interested in a certain girl which happens to be Keziah. He approaches her and makes known his intentions to her. She constantly refuses his advances and remains adamant. It is seen in the novel that he had approached her on several occasions but she continually turned him down. It is clear that he has good intentions for her and cares about her as well but she still refuses. Despite the rejection and treatment he received from her, he didn't back down and fought to be her friend. She finally agrees to be his friend and pays him a visit at his house. He was then pressurized by his friend, K.K to drug her and rape her, which he did to his own disheartenment.

Demola is portrayed as a weak and easily influenced person. He is influenced to take drugs, join a cult and also rape a girl he genuinely liked. He isn't close to his parents as they are hardly home and thus, he sought care and love elsewhere and found it within the company of bad friends he hung around with. It can also be argued that he turned out to be this way because he sought approval from his friends and needed to feel among. He was involved in a clash between two cults who were at loggerheads with each other and was eventually caught in a crossfire and was accidentally shot to death by his "bosom friend" K.K.

3. Dr. Richards:

He is the father of Keziah and a medical doctor as well. He is portrayed as a busy man who is usually working and attending meetings, thus leaving little time for his family. He is also a responsible father who wishes to carry out his duties as a father and as a medical doctor as well. He is seen as a disciplinarian and a strict man who expects nothing but the best from his daughter. Therefore, he is disappointed when he learns of his daughter's pregnancy.

He is heartbroken and disheartened. He cares not only for his daughter's health but for the reputation of his family as well. One can argue that as some point, it seemed like he was more interested in protecting the reputation of his family than making sure his daughter was safe and healthy. He suggested abortion and was reprimanded by his wife for going against his own personal values as a person and as a medical doctor. It is normal for him to be angry at Keziah, but maybe his was

stretched a bit and he took it overboard. He was so harsh on Keziah that she felt so ashamed and decided to commit suicide. Luckily for her, it was a failed attempt and she returned from the hospital, hale and hearty. Her father then realized that he had been too hard on her and forgave her.

Points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM.

In this context and for the purpose of this question, divergence can simply be defined as the differences between the published version of a book and the film version. As in this case, the published version and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM.

Firstly, in the fourth movement in the published book, Keziah is said to be eating rice, beans and plaintain before Demola joins her with his own food and drink. While in the film, Demola is seen with only a bottle of drink on the table.

Next, the sixth movement in the published book explains that it is not until three weeks later that Keziah goes to Demola's room she is drugged and raped. She was unconscious and wakes up to find out that she had been raped by Demola. It was also made known that Demola gradually wakes up on his own. However, in the film version, it is made known that it is three weeks later that Keziah went to Demola's house and after being raped is seen waking Demola.

In addition to the diversions in the sixth movement, the published book says that Stella is seen waking up on her bed in the hostel when she hears a knock on the door. It was explained that Emmanuella was the person at the door which means that Emmanuela visits Stella in her room. However in the film version, Emmanuella goes to visit Stella outside while she is seen packing her already dried clothes.

Also, in the eight movement in the published book, the Red Shadows(Demola's cult group) are seen having a meeting to officially welcome their new members into the cult. Demola is seen kneeling at the centre as Spark begins to adress them. In the film version however, Demola is not seen to be kneeling at the centre. The ninth movement in the book also shows how gunshots were heard from different directions revealing some students hiding. While in the film version, the scene is nonexistent.

Likewise in the thirteenth movement of the published book, the DPO who is seen addressing the criminals is a woman, while in the film the DPO is a man. In the seventeenth movement in the book, when Nkanga Nkoro is declared guilty by the judge, his mum collapses and is quickly rushed to a waiting van that conveys her out of the premises. While in the film, this movement is not seen.

Furthermore, in the nineteenth movement of the book, K.K is seen confessing to Engineer Diran and Mrs. Diran, Demola's parents on how he was the major influence in Demola's life and led him into committing terrible acts, while in the film, it is seen that Mrs. Diran was not present in the conversation.

Finally, in the twenty-first movement in the book, Demola's parents visits Keziah's home and decides to take responsibility for Keziah's child on behalf of their dead son. While the in the film, Demola's mum is dead and Demola's father decides to take responsibility of his dead son's child. Similarly Keziah's daughter is called Mouritha in

the published book while in the film version, she is named Heritage Demola Diran.