GOOD MORNING SODOM BY SOLOMON EDEBOR.

THEMATIC THRUST- There are certain key subjects that can be brought out in the play; “Good Morning Sodom” by Solomon Edebor. These are the significant topics or message the book portrays.

1. Peer pressure: peer pressure is a prominent theme in this play. It is the act of being influenced by one’s peers to act in a certain way and this is seen in different areas in the play. Demola is a character in this play who is really affected by peer pressure. He likes Keziah and wants her to like him back but doesn’t have any ulterior motives connected with this feeling. He is being influenced by KK and Bentol to put Keziah on drugs and rape her, although, it doesn’t go down well with him, they did a good job in influencing him to do such atrocity. He was also influenced by his friends to do other things like move out of campus, go into drugs and the most dangerous of them all, to join the cult which ultimately led to his death.
2. Condemnation: Condemnation is another notable theme in the play. This is the expression of very strong criticism or disapproval towards something or someone. Certain characters in this play were condemned for their actions. Demola is condemned by Keziah for what he did to her. She is very angry and hurt. She says a lot of hurtful things to Demola for the great wrong he did. Keziah’s father also strongly criticized her for going to meet Demola in his apartment and getting pregnant for him even worse a cultist who is now dead. He criticizes her so much and even tries stays away from her. This affects Keziah so much so that she attempts suicide. KK and other cult members are also condemned for their actions and are punished in their school and the court for their evil deeds.
3. Regret: this is the feeling of remorse or sadness, remorse or disappointment for an action done. A number of characters in the play experienced the feeling of regret. Keziah regretted going to Demola’s house for school work. She regrets it so much, she wishes she didn’t befriend him like she initially said. She even regrets meeting him, she says “I hate you, Demola! Curse the sun that shone the day I set my eyes on you; I curse the feeling of friendship that drew me to this theatre of ridicule…”. Demola also regrets what he has done to Keziah. Mr Richards regrets how he treated his daughter after she gets pregnant as it really messed with her mental health. Lastly, Demola’s parents (r and Mrs Diran) regrets not being there for their son and paying no attention to what he was doing in school
4. Cultism: Cultism is one of the most significant themes in this play. It is a secret society which its activities are not known by non-members and they are characterized by violence and other forms of trouble to pursue their objectives. KK was a prominent member of the cult group in May flower university, he influences Demola to join the cult in which Demola joins. Demola and other new members are made to drink human blood to be initiated. Demola is killed on the day he is initiated into the cult as he is mistaken for a rival cult member. There are certain implications of the actions of some of the cult members. First, Demola was killed in the war zone. (If he wasn’t a cult member, he probably wouldn’t have died). Also, the cult members caught were expelled and given jail terms.
5. Rape- Rape is another theme in the play ‘Good Morning Sodom’ Rape is an unlawful sexual intercourse with or ‘without’ force by a sex organ, other body parts or foreign objects without the consent of the person subjected to such penetration.

This is displayed in the play. Demola drugged Keziah and then had sex with her which later led to her pregnancy. Rape doesn’t necessarily mean it was forced, it can also mean having sex with a person against their will and this is what Demola did. This also led Keziah to go through mental breakdown and that is one of the effects of rape among other negative effects.

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY

KEZIAH- Keziah is a character that plays a very significant role in this play. She is a bright student whose life took a turn the moment she decided to go to a man’s house. However, things didn’t end horribly for her as it wasn’t too late to put her back on the right track.

Keziah is a 200 level undergraduate in Mayflower University. She is seen as a serious student who wants nothing to toil with her education. She is also very loved by her parents. Her good girl behaviour is compromised when she goes to Demola’s house for assistance in school work. She is drugged and raped in Demola’s house and this builds up hatred in her heart for Demola. She later finds out she is pregnant for Demola which costs her so much condemnation from her father. She attempts suicide but narrowly escapes it with the help of her parents. She gives birth to a daughter and receives back the love she lost from her father. At the end of the play, Demola continues her education.

KK- Nkanga Nwoko popularly known as KK also plays a very important role in this play. Kk is a bad boy who was the major cause of most of the unfortunate events in the play. His bad deeds caught up with him as he ripped the reward of his labour.

 Keziah is Demola’s friend who influences him negatively. He and some other of his friends were the ones that made Demola make the worst mistakes of his life. Kk and his team were finally caught in the end and were expelled and given other legal punishments in which his was life imprisonment. Before he was. While he was already in prison, he asked to see Mr and Mrs Diran (Demola’s parents). He told them what Demola told him to tell them and also apologized for his actions. It seemed like he was regretful of his actions.

 Mr Richard- Mr Richard is Keziah’s father. He is a good man who loves his daughter and his family at large but anger blurs his vision when Keziah gets pregnant and he doesn’t act as the father he should have acted as.

 At the beginning of the play, Mr Richards couldn’t come to visit his daughter so he promised her through his wife to make it up to her. Later in the play, he hears his daughter fainted and is nervous about her health. That nervousness soon turns to anger when he finds out she is pregnant and seizes to be a good father too her. He later repents of his actions when his daughter attempts suicide. He sincerely apologizes and goes back to being the loving person he initially was before Keziah’s pregnancy.

POINT OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE MOVIE AND THE BOOK.

 In the book, the first scene is in the hostel, when the female students are at different spots during different things, before Keziah’s mum arrives. While in the movie, it just shows students going for classes before the arrival of Keziah’s mum is shown.

Some scenes in different movements in the book are cut in the movie, i.e. isn’t included in the movie as it was in the book.

In the third movement, there was a modification to the book in the movie. In the movie, some students came late to Mr Yusuf’s class and he sends them out of class. This did not happen in the book.

In the movie, Keziah slaps Demola as she asks what he did to her in his room, this did not happen in the book.

In the sixth movement, Emanuella comes to Stella’s room to talk to her about God while in the movie, Emmanuella meets her outside of her house to preach to her.

Keziah cries uncontrollably at the end of Stella’s story to her because she remembers what Demola did to her, while, in the movie, she just listens to Stella’s story carefully and takes advice from her.

The shooting between the Red Shadows cult group and their rival cult group is not portrayed in the movie the way it is discussed in the book.

In the ninth movement, in the book, Mr Diran comes with his wife to see KK while in the movie, he comes alone.