**AKINYEMI ENIOLA BETTY**

**22/LAW01/037**

**AFE 122 ASSIGNMENT**

**GOOD MORNING, SODOM BY SOLOMON EDEBOR**

*Good morning, Sodom* is a play by award-winning filmmaker, playwright, screenwriter, author and actor Solomon A. Edebor. It is a play based on the seemingly harmless fun that goes on in the tertiary institution of learning, which turns out to be life-threatening and lethal activities that have lifelong effects and consequences upon one’s life.

The playwright makes use of simple and direct diction which gives a sense of realism from the first movement till the last, He not only projected the problem on the big screen but provided probable solutions that can be used in solving them. The play also consists of several subject matters and themes that need to be examined thoroughly, the prominent ones are;

1. **Negative peer pressure**: The playwright exploited the theme of negative peer pressure vividly in the play as it was seen in different aspects of the play especially in the seventh movement where Demola is shown regretting his actions after raping Keziah a few days back and trying to talk to her but she wasn’t interested in his apology but told him to stay away from her as in her own words “ I curse the sun that shone the day I set my eyes upon you;” but his friend Nkanga Nwoko popularly known as KK was seen offering him a white substance which tho not acknowledged it was implied to be an hard drug probably cocaine as he was seen to be acting wild after sniffing the said substance . KK and Bentol were the prominent agents of negative peer pressure as they were also seen advising Demola in the twenty-first movement to take advantage of the fact that Keziah was coming to his house to do an assignment and take advantage of her, Demola was at first reluctant to take their advice but later did. The playwright used these aspects of the play to emphasis the evils that negative peer pressure can cause if not dealt with.
2. **Cultism**: cultism was one of the major themes in the play as it devastating effects were potrayed effectively as Demola, KK, and Bentol all had lifelong consequences for belonging to a cult group known as ‘RED SHADOWS’. Cultism is a rising and dangerous phenomenon in higher institution of learning that needs to be curbed with immediate effect, because not only is it a life-threatening practice it also requires one entering a lifelong pact/convenant devoting both one’s life and time to serving the mission and goal of the cult group has laid down which are usually about hurting people they consider enemies or people who refuse to tremble in fear at the mention of their name. As potrayed in the play the people involved in this dastardly practice were all punished accordingly except Demola who lost his life during one of their said operations, this serves as a deterrent to others who were contemplating this disgusting practice.
3. **Presence of the supernatural**: the theme of presence of the supernatural can be said to be an underlying theme as it only appeared in one movement which is the sixth movement where after Keziah was raped Stella was narrating her own experience to Keziah and how God saved her from destroying herself through a series of dreams and student preachers. The playwright uses this movement to preach that God can be the solution to any problem so far you reach out to him.
4. **Unconditional love**: The theme of unconditional love was exploited in the play where Keziah’s mum i.e Mrs. Richards although disappointed in her for jeopardizing her future by getting pregnant, she still supported her and not put her life in danger by letting her get an abortion even tho her father which is Mr. Richards was a little skeptical at first he still supported her by helping her go back to school after the birth of her daughter, Mouritha. Keziah’s parents loved her unconditionally even tho she bought shame upon their family and defiled herself.
5. **Lack of parental care:** Demola’s parents were to blame for some of his actions as they failed to parent him so his friends parented him instead but unfortunately he was blessed with God-fearing friends or good ones either so based on the lack of parental attention and care basically, it can be said that his parents basically killed him as they failed to train him well and believed that the only thing a child needs is material things, so they basically showered him with material things but no morals. Which is a widely dastardly act practiced by parents these days, under the guise of trust and love. Trust and negelect are two different things

**CHARACTERIZATION /CHARACTER ANALYSIS.**

**KEZIAH RICHARDS:** Keziah Richards is a 200level student at Mayflower university, Ugbebor, Nigeria. She was the only child born to Dr. Aworawo Richards and Mrs. Joke Richards. Keziah is a female undergraduate, who started out as a disciplined and upright student but had her academic journey truncated by Demola Diran who had emotional feelings for her or so he claimed. Demola raped her on pressure from his friends; Nkanga Nwoko popularly known as KK and Usman Yibo popularly known as Bentol, they pressured him to take advantage of the fact that Keziah is coming to his apartment and rape her. Keziah was potrayed to be an educational focused lady and a respectful one at that, after getting pregnant she was treated with disgust by her father Dr Aworawo Richards but she still treated him with respect, projecting her as a responsible child. Keziah tried to commit suicide to save herself of the embarrassment and ridicule she has brought on her parents, she left behind a letter telling her parents how much she loved them and how sorry she was. After her suicide attempt, she had her daughter Mouritha, and went back to school.

**DEMOLA DIRAN** :Demola, was Keziah’s course mate, from a wealthy family. Demola liked Keziah and cared deeply for her, he tried to tell her and express his feelings for her but she kept rejecting him because according to her, he was distraction. Taking advice from him friends KK and Bentol, they made him do things he was reluctant to agree to, which was to drug and rape Keziah encouraging him that he would enjoy it and it wasn’t as bad as he painted it to be. Although he later did it, he regretted his actions deeply and tried to apologize but Keziah refused to listen to him as she was still bitter about what he did to her. He was ashamed of his actions and blamed his friends for giving him such terrible advice, but instead they offered him hard drugs to help him get high and forget his guilt and shame. In the next scene we see Demola being introduced to cultism and becoming a member of the ‘RED SHADOWS’ confraternity, where he was offered a liquid to drink binding his soul, body and spirit to the noble sect. The cult members planned to have a fight with a rival cult group, during this fight Demola was shot by KK who claimed that it was a mistake. Demola’s parents later found out that KK had been manipulating their son based on the fact that he was from a rich and well to do family, and they had mindlessly fallen into his trap by providing Demola too much material things and not enough morals. They had mindlessly pushed their son to the wolves without knowing it, so his parents also have a blame in what happened to their son. The other cult members were rounded up and expelled they were also sentenced to some years in prison but KK got the lion’s share of the punishment. Demola in the play can be said to be both a victim and a perpetrator as he was a victim of neglect and manipulation but he also has a blame in what happened to Keziah.

**DR AWORAWO RICHARDS:** This is Keziah’s father, he was a good father to Keziah while she was a straight academic student, but the moment he found out that she was nine weeks pregnant he switched up based on disappointment and sadness. He became nonchalant and this troubled Keziah and her mum greatly to the extent that they would cry often. He suggested an abortion once for Keziah even tho it went against his principles and beliefs but his wife which is Mrs. Joke Richards refuted this suggestion reminding him that it goes against their principles and it would be endangering Keziah’s life. Keziah hearing their daily argument coupled with her father’s recent attitude decided to commit suicide, Dr. Richards seeing that he almost lost his only child due to his attitude, decided to support her and accept her condition, he apologized to her and when she had her baby decided to help her continue her schooling by getting her admission in the University of Ibadan where she would continue her education from 200 level. Dr. Richards can be easily judged in this context but to whom much is given, much is expected so we can say this is a classic case of a heartbroken parent, who had a hard time accepting his daughter’s flaws.

Not surprisingly, the title *Good morning, Sodom* was not limited to a play, it was also enacted as a movie by The Ark drama films production in conjunction with the playwright Dr. Solomon A. Edebor. The production was a massive success as it racked up thousands of views on the streaming platform ‘Youtube’. Naturally the play written and the play enacted can’t be the same to the letter, while watching the enacted play, we can spot some differences that were not stated in the book. The following are some mild differences between the play written and the play enacted;

1. Third Movement:In the film version, Dr Yusuf’s class is interrupted by two students of opposite sex after they came to class late., while in the written play his class interrupted. In the film, Dr Yusuf greeted the students with ‘Good Day’ while in the published he greeted with ‘good morning’. Demola’s first two lines weren’t said in the film, Bunmi’s first line wasn’t said and also Ovie’s first line wasn’t said. Fourth Movement In the published version, it was written that ‘Demola takes a mouthful of rice then looks up to Keziah’ but in the film, he had no rice only 1 drink.
2. Sixth Movement: In the published version, Demola is said to be lying on his bed but in the film, he wasn’t on a bed Line 8,9,12,14,15 weren’t used in the film version. In the book, Keziah woke up agitated and sobbing while in the film she did the same but slapped Demola also. In the book, four men were said to be bringing out some clothes under the command of Adeyoju but in the film only one man was shown In the book, Stella woke up after the first dream in her bed and interacted with Emmanuella after she woke up but in the film the scene of her waking up wasn’t shown and she had the interaction with Emmanuella in the drying space outside.
3. Seventh movement: In the book, K.K gave Demola a white substance wrapped in a nylon to sniff but in the film, it was wrapped in paper.
4. Eighth movement: in the book, three blindfolded men were said to be kneeling down including Demola, signifying his initiation into the cult. in the film, it was only two men , Demola was standing with the other cultists depicting that he was already a member before that scene. Spark snaps his hand twice in the book but in the film he didn’t in the book, one of the deceased cultists was called Dagren but in the film he was called Dragon.
5. Ninth movement: the ninth movement wasn’t shown in the film Tenth movement in the film, Stella wasn’t bleeding after fainting and no car stopped once she got a view of Demola’s lifeless body.
6. Twelfth movement: In the book, Stella waves goodbye after hugging Keziah but in the film stella assists Keziah into the car and follows them while sitting in the front seat of the car.
7. Thirteenth movement: In the book, the DPO was referred to as a woman but in the film, it was a man that was the DPO In the film, the DPO instructed the two officers to ask the IPO to speed up his investigation. He also told them to make a copy of the case file and send it to the DPP for advice. Lastly, they were told to quickly conclude their investigation so that prosecution could begin but in the book this conversation didn’t happen.
8. Fourteenth movement: In the book, Dr. Richards instructed Keziah to pick up the book from the center table and hand it to him. However, he stopped her midway and asked her to open it, revealing that there was a letter for her inside. In the film, there was no book, only the letter The book states that both mother and father are together in the living room with Keziah while her and Dr Richard converse but the film depicts the mother walking in on the conversation.
9. Sixteenth movement: In the book, Dr Richard called the unborn child ‘evil thing’ but in the film the child was called ‘bastard’ Where the book said Keziah laid down on her left side, she was seen lying down on her right side There is an added scene in the film where Keziah is seen crying in her room and her mother is seen consoling her after the treatment her father gave her after he came back from work.

10. Seventeenth Movement: The only statements the prosecution and defense counsel made in the film were ‘My Lord, let justice prevail. Most obliged, my Lord’ and ‘I, therefore, plead my Lord that you temper justice with mercy. I rest my case’. The only statements the judge made in the film and also in the book were his second line, the statement ‘Having looked into the facts and circumstances of this peculiar case’ in his third line and his final line. The court clerk didn’t make a single statement in the film The accomplices of KK had their names mentioned in the film version of the play and their names were as follows: Torkuma Okorie, Musa Abubaker, Olupitan Steve, Sebiotimo Philips In the book, the judge was stated to have glasses but, in the film, he had no glasses in the book KK’s mother is mentioned while in the film she has no single appearance.

1. Eighteenth Movement: In the book, Dr Richards was said to be sitting at the back of a Toyota Venza but in the film, he was seen sitting at the back of a Toyota Sienna.
2. Nineteenth Movement: The story here was in the twenty first movement in the films story approach Mrs. Diran wasn’t in this movement neither did she appear in the film Some of Mrs. Diran’s lines were used as lines for Engineer Diran in the film The part where K.K brings out a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Diran was scrapped in the film Lines for Mrs. Diran that were scrapped in the film are her second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh line in the book.
3. Twentieth Movement: Keziah was said to be lying down on her bed in the book but in the film, she was on a couch.
4. Twenty First Movement: Mrs. Diran was said to be dead in the film After the twenty first movement in the film, a scene was done where Keziah was in labour, called for her mother who came, called Dr Richards, told him they were heading to the hospital and that he should meet them there after which she helped Keziah to the hospital.

15. Twenty Second Movement: The scene inside the labour room wasn’t shown in the film version.

\*Note: The twenty third movement wasn’t acted in the film; Keziah’s daughter was called Maurita in the book but was called Heritage Demola-Diran in the film.