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English 2

31 March 2017

Society is defined as the aggregate of people living together in a more or less ordered community. In every society, there are laws that govern it, whether that be natural, materialistic, or societal laws. These laws shape the natural order of society and its inhabitants. What happens when these laws suddenly change in society? Perhaps people change to fit their environment, this change may be forced upon the individual and result in conflict. Is this always the case? The structure within a society is very fragile and can easily change depending on the leaders within it. Within a society, changes in structure are results of power and conquest, and because of this, there will always be societal conflict within a society.

In chapter eight of LOTF by William Singe, the group of boys reconvene on the beach after seeing the beast. Eventually, the boys end up in an argument. Jack and Ralph, in particular, are at odds with each other. Jack leaves the group after he insults Ralph's leadership skills the entire time. "The silence continued, breathless and heavy and full of shame. Slowly the red drained from Jack's cheeks, then came back with a painful rush... 'How many think-' His voice tailed off. The hands that held the conch shook. He cleared his throat and spoke loudly 'Alright then.'" (127) It is evident that Jack has lost connection with the group of boys after his desperation for power. He had consistently used negativity to attempt to shift the power balance so that it'd be in his favor. Though it is evident that it doesn't work in this scene, Jack leaves the group of boys based on his own desire to lead, further expanding the conflict between the two as he divides himself from them. Jack thinks different than how the others do, this is because he was a leader in the beginning of the book and now he isn't he cannot adapt to being a follower and this is causing issues within the group.

Towards the end of the book, Simon has awoken and stumbled across the "beast" that the group of boys had been concerned about throughout the book. He realizes that it was only a dead man in a parachute and that the group boys had over thought the beast. Simon had quickly run to Jack's territory to inform them of what he found. Unknowingly, Simon had stumbled into a ritual lead by Jack and his followers, the once civilized boys, were now the island savages. " 'Kill the beast! Cut his throat! Spill his blood! Do him in!' The sticks fell and the mouth of the new circle crunched and screamed. The beast was on its knees in the center, its arms folded over its face. It was crying out against the abominable noise, something about a body on the hill." (152) This

chapter is titled, A View to a Death, as Simon is killed in this chapter. As gruesome as his death already was, his death also represents something. Simon had never joined Jack's group, he was only an outsider attempting to relay information. He was unaware of the change in structure within the group of savages and he was killed because he didn't adapt to this new environment. In this case, the group of savages represent inhabitants of a society, the general population. Simon represents the outsiders of a society, the migrants that move into the population. Simon's death represents what happens when a population forced to undergo extreme change, meets outsiders.

Another example of power, conquest, and changes in structure causing societal conflict would be in the real world, specifically in modern-day America. During the election, Donald Trump, a presidential candidate and future president who was known for his incredibly shocking statements was speaking to the public. Donald Trump had eventually gotten to the topic of Muslims and Islam when he states, "Until we are able to determine and understand this problem and the dangerous threat it poses, our country cannot be the victims of horrendous attacks by people that believe only in Jihad, and have no sense of reason or respect for human life," When Trump said this, he said this to an America that was beginning to change drastically. This change was natural because America was changing for a new president. Trump has a different view than what the previous president did, just as everyone didn't like President Obama, not everyone likes Trump. There are many people who disagree with this statement and agree with the opposing sides. Statements like this push this divide and make it clear what people are considered wrong in front of that "power" or person in charge. This is a result of differences in opinion which may also stem from differences in leaders.

In the real world, people are expected to change over the course of time. People can either wither or flourish within a new structure, this is because new structures are essentially new environments. The ones that flourish may see no issues with anything, while the ones that wither wait for the chance for someone to lead them to change. An example of someone withering within a new environment would be Muhammed Ali Jr. He had been detained at an airport. While Ali Jr had been positive it was because he was Muslim, others didn't. During the time, Trump had sent an executive that called for a temporary "travel ban" which prevented some people from majority Muslim countries from entering the U.S. This had caused conflict within society, because of Trump's arrival as president there was a change in the way people act toward the minority, and that now directly affects people and their families, this could potentially cause issues with other countries and have even bigger effects on people.

Within a society, changes in structure are results of power and conquest, and there will always be societal conflict within society. Society is built upon weak bases that can crumble and shift at any point. People, however, must change to fit their environment, if it's forced upon the people then, it's a result of conflict. Conflict is a result of laws that were broken by mankind. Everyone has laws, without laws society wouldn't be able to support itself.

### **Work Cited**

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