Connection essay

Loyalty is a powerful thing that can have positive and negative effects on people. My four text are the short story “The Children Story” written by James Clavell, the film “Tomorrow When The War Began” directed by Stuart Beattie, the film “The Hunger games” directed by Gary Ross and the film “You’re Not You” director by George C. Wolfe. All these text show the theme “the impact of loyalty on people.

The the short story “The Children's Story” the theme “the impact of loyalty on people” was shown. After the war had finished the government had taken control completely including in the schools. The teachers were told by the government to make the children change their perspectives on a lot of important aspects in their life. Because the teachers were loyal to the government and they didn't question that what they were doing was wrong because the government is in control and they fear that if they aren't loyal they will be punished. In the society we live in today the government is still in control. But when there is a problem the people stand together and protest to get the point across to the government. And they work hard to resolve the problem. Although in the past the government would over throne the people and they didn't have much of a say compared to our society today.

 In this case the type of government is more of a dictatorship so people are afraid to not follow what the government wants them to do or disagree to what they are doing. Because they have seen what the government is capable of doing when people feel strongly that what they are doing is wrong and sometimes make risky decisions trying to defend the people, in result of this the people get punished. In this case one of the students johnny felt the situation was off from the start “Jonny put up his hand. “How'd you know our names? I mean, well, we haven't had a roll call or anything, so how'd you know our names?” although the teacher found it very easy to get into the children's heads because children have much younger minds and when introduced to something they don’t hesitate the new ideas and changes that it brings. “Jonny decided that he liked his teacher very much. Because she told the truth. Because she was right about fear. Because she was right about God.” This shows us that The teacher wants the children to like her and to trust her. When we trust someone, we feel a kindness towards them and so we are more likely to do what they want. People will trick us by using our own trust and loyalty against us. “The New Teacher shut the door behind Miss Worden and turned back into the room, cradling Sandra in her arms. “Children, children, there's no need to cry!” she said. “I know I’ll sing you a song! Listen!” this shows us that People will use others to their own advantage and try hard to gain trust and respect to make them loyal and in this situation means that being loyal to this new teacher in a way made the children become overthrown by her.

Unlike ‘The Children’s Story,’ which shows the dangers of blind loyalty, the film ‘Tomorrow When The War Began’ shows extreme loyalty between friends. Strong acts of loyalty were shown throughout the movie, but also poor acts of loyalty in a couple of characters, which had a big impact on the other characters in the movie. In the film they were all put in a very dangerous situation when they came back from a tramping trip and found that there had been a high-intensity invasion and occupation of their country by a foreign power. This dangerous situation tested the loyalty they had for each other. I can see this in one of scenes in the movie where a couple of them were being tracked down by two people from the military so they all hid behind a hill. in that moment Ellie had the idea to light a torch with petrol on it and throw it at them which then killed them. After she had done this and went to look at them she saw a young girl around her age, you could then see a sudden change of emotion in her face, she felt very sad and empty that she had just ended this young girls life. This shows us that when put in a situation like this loyalty tests you and drives you to do things you never thought you would do to protect yourselves and your friends. I could also see when put in dangerous situations loyalty brings people closer together by making important decisions to look out and protect each other. The decision that Ellie made showed us how strong her loyalty was towards her friends and what she was willing to do to protect them. some showed that their loyalty was strong but one character Kevin showed poor acts of loyalty towards his friends which had a strong effect on what some of them thought of him by damaging their trust that they had towards him before. Kevin showed poor loyalty towards his girlfriend and bestfriend when they were in a dangerous situation and kevin thought about his own safety and ran away to keep himself safe not thinking about the danger his girlfriend and friend were still in. It was clear to me that when our own life is in danger, sometimes even the loyalty we feel towards people we love isn’t as strong as our own need to survive. Loyalty isn’t the only thing that impacts on our decisions, but our decisions are also made by situations we are in and whether we feel threatened.

Like the movie “Tomorrow When The War Began” The “The Hunger Games” has also put characters in dangerous situations and by doing this forced them to test the loyalty that they have for eachother. In a dystopian future, the nations of Panem is divided into 12 districts and the Capitol. Each year two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games, where they are to fight to the death. When Prenrose was chosen to compete in the hunger games her sister Katniss showed how loyal she was to her by volunteering in her sisters place, loyalty was so strong that she was willing to risk her own life. This shows that their bond as sisters was very strong and how much love they had for each other, their loyalty outweighs any risk. When Katniss went into the game with her partner Peeta Mellark. They didn't know eachother going into the game so they were both hesitant about how much they could trust each other and how loyal they should be with each other. During the games they showed strong acts of loyalty still. I see this when Peeta injured himself and Katniss put all her mind set into getting him better and staying loyal to him if it meant putting her own life in danger. Even though Peeta and Katniss hadn't known each other before the games, Katniss still showed this strong act of loyalty towards him. It shows me that trust needs to exist a lot of the time before we will develop loyalty. When something like this happens between to people in society it brings them so much closer together. Traumatic events bring people together and this is what creates trust. Although if the person isn't as loyal as Katniss was, the selfishness in the person takes over. Some people have that strong selfishness inside them, and sometimes the only time it shows is when we are faced with a really intense situation together, like Katniss and Peeta were. This relates to some people in society and makes you think about the people you surround yourself with and how loyal they are to you. This makes me wonder if the reason that Katniss showed loyalty was because she might have been hurt by a unloyal person in the past and didn't want Peeta to feel this pain she had once felt before. It shows me how much loyalty can have i long term effect on people and their future decisions. it also makes me have a look at myself and my actions and words, how i am expecting to be treated and upholding this.

Unlike the “The Hunger Games” where it shows strong acts of loyalty the movie “You're Not You” does show the selfishness come through in a character. This film shows me what happens when loyalty is broken. The movie Kate and her husband were madly in love when Kate was diagnosed with ALS which is a life a theatning dieses. Although her husband Evan stayed loyal to her and took care of her at the beginning. When she started to get worse their relationship wasn't the same and he then started talking to another women. This shows me that he was so caught up in their “perfect” relationship that they had before and when Kate got worse he decided that she isn't the same anymore. And he broke that loyalty that they had for each other. Evan needs to understand that life isn't just about getting through years of your life being successful and happy and being in the “perfect” relationship, it's also caring enough about supporting these relationships no matter what obstacles stand in its way. This shows me that sometimes people's loyalty isn't enough to stick with them to the end. And sometimes people are just looking for something to distract them from the pain and they try to distance themselves from the person that is sick. Because they think it won’t hurt as much in the end. Even though her husband's loyalty and love wasn't enough. Her caregiver Bec was a very important and loyal person to her and was one of the reasons Kate was able to be the happy person she was before she was sick. I see this when Bec was out for a drink with her friends and she got a missed call from Kate and she knew something was wrong, so she dropped everything and went to her without any hesitation. Because she knew that Kate was acting of although Kate wouldn't tell Bec what was wrong but she knew something was. This showed me that Becs loyalty wasn't just because it was her job to be it was because she cared about Kate and what was going on and this is the best kind of loyalty. This relates back to the tourist attacks in Christchurch and how Jacinda Ardern went about things. She wasn't being loyal to the muslim community because she was in the public eye and it was her job. she felt so much hurt for them and she above and beyond to make sure them specifically were ok and supported on a personal level.

Loyalty can be many things. I believe loyalty is a very powerful thing and can have lasting impacts on people. It can bring people closer together like no other. As you can see in the film “Tomorrow When The War Began” and “The Hunger Games”. But loyalty can also make people drift apart when the selfishness in the person takes over. As seen in the film “You’re Not You”. But if loyal to the wrong the person you might risk being tricked and that person using your own trust and loyalty against you, as seen in the film “The Children Story”. Loyalty is powerful. but what i know now is that it has shaped our society to what it is today and the relationships in it.