

THE DISABLE MONSTER



MIHURIEL RAMOS

PROF: JULIA RODAS

5-9-18

WORDS DEFINITIONS IN A DISABILITY FORM

1. MONSTER: is a large, small, angry, ugly and frightening disable person that many of us tend to look at like they are monsters. Example of this is Hellen Keller, Lennie, the elephant man and many others who then non-disable tend to segregate just because according to them due to their disability they are monsters and need to stay away from the non-disable community so that they don't get to harm the non-disable ones.

2. PITY: is the compassion many people feel for those who are disable without thinking that many disable people the last thing they want or need, is for others to feel sorry or have pity for them. One example will be, a disable person who has a visible disability and often get pity from everyone because they feel bad for whatever had happened to that person or because according to the non disable, that is just the "thing" to do.

3. INSPIRATION: when a disable person uses his/her disability to encourage others disable people or community to go to school and to gain a degree to proof to them that the disability they have is not an obstacle to achieve their goals in life. For example, a blind person who decides to write a book, which is pretty hard for those with disabilities imagine for a blind person. Well then that blind person is sending a message to others blind people out there, saying that even though he or she is blind she still manages to write a book therefore others like the person who wrote the book can also write one if they choose to.

4. FRUSTRATION: is how many disable people feel when they can't achieve a task that is simple for

others to achieve but difficult for them due to their disability. For example, a disable person who was born with hearing problems and wants to be able to hear what someone who does not know how to speak sign language is trying to tell them, and so they get frustrated at the fact that the disable person is unable to communicate with the non-disable one or that the disable one is unable to understand the other person.

5. ANGER: is the feeling of a disable person or disable community that comes in to place when the non-disable person treats them bad or discriminates the disable ones. Also, the disable person can feel anger when is unable to communicate with others. For example, Helen Keller, who was always angry when she was a little girl due to the fact that nobody was understanding her till her teacher came and thought her how to communicate with others.

6. EXPLOITATION: is when the non-disable person e takes advantage of the disable ones for their own convenience. An example is, the elephant man who was exploited and use for circus shows without pay. And later, in a better and nicer way, he was used for medical experiments by his doctor.

7. ISOLATION: is what many disable people tend to do when they feel like they just don't fit into our society due to their disability. One example, a person who is in a well chair who doesn't want to go to a pool, park or a beach for example, just because they are not able to use their legs like others, So they tend to isolate themselves from the rest of the society.

8. SEX: is something that for many people especially the non-disable ones, believe is impossible to happen in the disable community due to the fact that they are disable and incapable of having sex with each other or even with others who are not disable.

9. VIOLENCE: is what many disable people tend to use when they want to show how they feel. They also use violence when they want no pity from the non-disable one. For example, a disable person who was assigned to do a task and a non-disable one, tries to help that person just because they feel bad for the person and just want to help them to get it done faster, then some disable people might

get angry and respond to that non-disable person with violence, maybe because they don't want their help or because they don't want to feel like they can't finish their task on their own. Which is pretty understandable to me.

10. SUICIDE: is the thought of many disable people who due to their disability tend to commit suicide or at least have ones thought of committing suicide. One huge example is, a mental ill person, who can't handle the pressure of feeling sad or depressed due to their mental issue and try or actually commits a suicidal act to get rid of their depression or their mental disability.

TO SHARED WITH CLASSMATES!

Many of us tend to look at the disable community as they were different than us and many of us treats people with disabilities as they were or are monsters. Like they were some type creatures that for some reason those who are not disable believe that in some way or another the non-disable community should fear the disable community, because according to many people due to their mental illness, we should fear them since they could hurt the rest of us at any time, which is just ridicules to me. To add to it, taking the disability class with professor Julia Rodas, helped me understand much better the disable community. Also, it helped me learn how treat the disable community without disrespecting them and I learned to treating them just like I would treat anybody else because they are like every single one of us and deserve the same respect as the non-disable community do. Therefore, I recommended to anybody who ones thought of a disable person as a "monster," due to their disability, to think twice before mistreating or disrespecting one with a disability because I believe we all deserve equality in our society with or without disabilities. I recommend thinking right before calling a disable one, crazy or retarded because first of all, we all need to respect one another and second I don't believe that just because a person has a mental illness should be called crazy. one because that is not a right way to address someone and two, because in fact, people with disabilities can do some things that nondisabled people cannot do, bringing their experience and focus to key aspects of a task. Individuals with disabilities can bring work ethic skills to complete an assignment or project, allowing them to make a contribution to society.

THE DISABLE MONSTER

To begin with, “Monster” or “Monstrous” is a word that causes many of us some type of fear at some point. As is stated in the dictionary “The Oxford, New Essential Thesaurus” by arrangement with Oxford University Press, Inc. The word, “monstrous” is monstrous creatures miscreated, malformed, unnatural, abnormal, grotesque, gruesome etc. But to my understanding when it comes to talk about the disable community, many people who are not disable tend to use the word “Monster,” to refer to those who suffer from some type of disability. For example, those who suffer mental illness, who unfortunately act different than the non-disable ones and due to their behavior are constantly segregated from the rest of the society, sometimes because the rest of the community is incapable of understanding them. In the following paragraphs I am going to provide some quotes from the following articles and films, to be able to get into more details about why non-disable community tend to disrespect many disable people just because of their disabilities. “Mice of Man” by John Steinbeck, “The Miracle Worker,” by Helen Keller, “Leo and Carol” by Albert, “WHY I BURNED MY BOOK, And Other Essays Screening Stereotypes” by Paul. K. Longmore, “THE YELLOW WALL-PAPER” by Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

Let me first start by saying that, after taking the disability class with professor Julia Miele Rodas, I came to realize that many of us tend to segregate or discriminate the disable community. One because many of us are ignorant and tow because many non-disable people believe that people with disabilities are different than them and that actually according to many non-disable people believe that many disable people with mental illness are actually dangerous and many looks at that community as the monster community. Because they are actually scared of them, due to the fact that they are unable to understand their mental issues therefore instead of trying to understand the disable community they

just segregate them so that according to them they don't get hurt by the "Crazy," or Monsters like" disable people. To add to it, to many of us tend to look at the disable community as if their mental and physical issue have done so much damage to them that they are some type of "monster" like. According to them we, the non-disable community should and have to stay away from them to prevent getting hurt by them. Furthermore, many authors, films and articles tend to put the disable community in a monster like position or in a position where the disable person in the film, article or book should die at the end because they are the "useless" ones therefore they deserve to die. Authors and producers tend to do this, intentionally or non-intentional to make us the viewer or reader believe that the disable person is an uncontrollable one and unable to be "fix," therefore they should be sacrifice for everyone's sake. And because that is the easiest way out. Which is sad because I would like to see the disable community to be portrayed in a better way. Another book where I found a similar situation is on, "The Odyssey" book 9, by the author Robert Fagles, where the author present us this huge "monster like" cyclop and the "poor" guy called "Nobody," where the author wants us, the readers to believe that the victims in the story are Nobody and his crew, not the cyclop who nobody and his crew went to his house and lately violated his property and on top of that they hurt the cyclop by stabbing him in his only eye leaving him blind.

One good example of these authors and the way they tend to send us I what I would called subliminal messages and when I say us I am talking about the non-disable community and the disable one as well. One example of this is the author of the book "Mice of Men" by John Steinbeck, who I guess in a "nice" way presents us the main character Lennie, as the monster in the story. The reason why I say this is because from the very beginning Steinbeck says the fallowing, "Behind him walked his opposite, a he man, shapeless of face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws." Page #2 Here clearly Stainbeck is referring to Lennie as if he was a bear or a monster bear. Preparing us from the very beginning the fatal ending for

Lennie so that we won't have no pity for him, since from the very beginning his presenting Lennie has been the monsters in the story. Because according to what I read in the book, he thinks Lennie is a "disable monster." Who like in many other stories must die for the sake of others.

Following this further, another place where I found another author discriminating a disable person is on the film, "Leo And Carol," by Albert where the producer probably unintentionally or intentionally, show us how Carol's family didn't like Leo and how they didn't want him in their family at the beginning when him and Carol first met. And the reason why they didn't like him was because of his disability, since he suffer from a physical empowerment that prevents him from growing. I recall that when Leo was doing the interview he said the fallowing, "I remember been anxious about going to Carol's mom's house because they didn't want me there, I still get anxious, every time I go to her house." In another interview Carol's mother says the fallowing, {"When I saw this little thing coming in my house, with my daughter, I said to my daughter "I raised you to be a prince but it looks like you are the snow white."} And she laughs... Referring with this to Leo as one of the small creatures' characters of snow white. implying with this that basically Leo is like a little monster like due to his disability and that is why she did not like him for her daughter. But then again, she accepted the marriage because Leo is a professional comedian who makes a lot of money and can offer her daughter a good future on his side. Which to me is just ridicules, because basically Carol's mother only accepted him in her family because of his money and not for him or for the love her daughter has for him, because to her his just a little monster like creature that doesn't deserve her daughter because of his disability. I might be wrong but that is what I got from watching the film.

Pursuing this further, in "The Miracle Worker" film by Helen Keler on this film I also found that the author is trying to imply that the main character is also a "disable monster." The reason why I say this, is because from the beginning like in "Mice of Men" when Helen puts her

finger into the boy's mouth then on the other girl too, and finally when her mother comes to stop her from trying to "hurt" the girl. Also, Helen's brother, James Keler tells his father with a smile on his face the following quote, "Well papa! I hope you got your story ready." To which the father replies, "which story?" and James says, "The one you going to tell when the little savage kills someone." Once again as we can see the director and author of the film is telling us in this quote that Helen is a savage disabled person who can and will hurt others because she's a disabled, monster who according to the producer, only her mother is able to control her by giving her candy. And she's only able to do that because she's Helen's mother otherwise she wouldn't do that either. Because nobody can't control this "savage" disabled person. I have to say that watching this film had me very frustrated at first because as I was watching it I was saying to myself, instead of the author or producer focusing on the disability of Helen and how she finally got to overcome her disability by being able to finally communicate with her loved ones, the producer focuses more in trying to tell us how much of a savage "Monster" Helen "is" according to him.

Pursuing this further, another film that got me very frustrated is the real-life documentary of inmates called "Lockup: State Prisons in Santa Rosa, FL: Extended Story." By the following producers Rasha Drachkovitch, Jim Cirigliano, Jim Cirigliano, Jim Cirigliano, etc. introduced to the public by channel MSNBC. Where one of the inmates which I will call George to protect his identity, George seems to suffer from mental issues which if he was a free man he would probably be seen as a Psychologist. And the reason why I say that is because just by watching the way he acts in the documentary one can tell that there is something wrong with his brain and that he needs professional help. The main reason why I say this is because, George first

starts writing letters to president Obama saying that “as soon as he gets out of prison he will kill him” and when the person who interrogates him asked why would he do that knowing that his release time was close by he said that he didn’t had a place to go so he did all of that knowing that it would buy him more time in prison. And I must say that this is just insane for someone to do because there are many programs out there that could provide him with shelter if he ever needed it. Moreover, another part of the documentary, one of the officers tells the producer or the person doing the documentary interrogation, that George have ones cut his testicles just to according to him, “to try to get the officers attention,” and when the person asking the questions asked the officer, “But, don’t you think it could be that he is having mental issues due to the fact that has been incarcerated for a long time and on solitary confident that George is actually suffering from mental issues.?” The officer replies to this saying, “Nop,! Him just like every other inmate are very violent inmates, who tend to do these kinds of stupidities just to get some attention from the officers and other inmates, when they are bored in their cells. They are animals, violent animals who need to be lock at all times and never be let out in the society” And when George was asked why he did that and why he cuts himself in his hands, which is another thing he also do. George says, “I don’t Know.!” This to me shows me that George needs mental help. Real help! and not the one provided by the prison because it is clear to me that there is something very wrong with his mentality and he needs real help, and not to be judge by officers who sees him as a monster who needs to keep lock so that he doesn’t hurt others.

In addition, another film where the author implies that the disable actor which is the main character “Philippe” whose real name is Francois Cluzet, and who is in a wheel chair due

to a cerebral paralysis. in this film the author tries to imply that Phillippe is a mean disable person. who he decides to look for a new male nurse or an experience man who could help him with his necessities. the film it's called, "The Intouchables" by Directors: Eric Toledano, Olivier Nakache "Magalie" Audrey Fleurot, is the Philippe's secretary and the person in charge to find the right person for him, when interviewing the candidates acts like Phillips wants a perfect professional man or male nurse to help him and wants to tell us the viewer that Philippe even though is a disable person, is an extremely strict person and won't take any less than what according to Magali "he won't settle for any less." But Philippe is the opposite than what Magali or the producer is trying to imply at the beginning of the movie because he actually is a very sweet guy who decides to hire a black guy who had no idea of what he was doing and who also had a criminal record, but Philippe didn't really cared about that because he saw that "Driss" Omar sy, the new nurse, was actually a good person and wanted to really work and on top of that as Philippe says it himself in one of the scenes, "and also I hired him because he is the right candidate to me, because he's strong and will be able to carry me." Him replying to one of Magalie's questions. I decided to use this film as an example because Phillippe just like many other disable people in this movie is portrait as an extremely strict person who is very demanding due to his disability, which at the end of the movie we get to see that he is the opposite of what the producer is trying to imply.

Lastly, also on "Why I Burned My Book, and others essays on disability, screening stereotypes" by Paul k. Longmore. The author here is not referring to the disable community as a monstrous community but instead, he is defending this community so that the other authors could stop presenting us the readers or the viewers of many films and movies and sometimes

documentaries how “evil” or how “monstrous” many disable people could be or “is” according to them. For example, on page #146 chapter 7, the author states the following, “The scholarly task is to uncover the hiding history of disable people and to raise to awareness the unconscious attitudes and values emended in media images. The political task is to liberate disable people from the paternalistic prejudice expressed in those images and to forge a new social identity.” He also says that, “representations of people with disabilities in television, film, literature, and the arts needs more detailed investigation. It seems probable that an analysis of not only the “monster” criminal and maladjusted characterizations, but also other types, world revealed a hierarchy or disability involves a complex interaction.” To add to this, I have to say that I totally agree with this because unfortunately many people tend to look at the disable ones as they are dangerous or monster like. but I believe that the real reason why they tend to think like this is because of the negligence that many authors, producers, artist etc. tend to commit against the disable community. and all of it just because they just want to make extra money by providing fatal endings of the disable people in their stories because according to them that is the only way they could sale which is vain. because a good story is a good story and it will sale if is well produced without having to put others down in this case without having to bring down the disable community.

Work cited

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The old supporting papers done as homework

#1

2-26-18

MIHURIEL RAMOS

Prof: Julia Miele Rodas

Class: Mon-Wed 11:00-12:15p.m

To start with, when I read the book "Of Mice and Men" by the author John STEINBECK, I immediately started thinking of the article "Drown" by JUNOT DIAZ. The reason why I say this is because well just like junior and Rafa, George and Lennie were basically inseparable. But I have to say though, in "Of Mice and Men," after reading the entire book I realized that more than one person **had some type of disability, the first one is Lennie who is a big and strong guy but as George stated** at the beginning of the reading on page #4, a crazy bastard! When Lennie forgets what George had told him to remember so that he didn't get in any trouble at the new job. Even though George refers to Lennie as a crazy person I see that George has a lot of love for Lennie which kills me when he is the one who has to kill Lennie at the end of the story. It just broke my heart in pieces, I have to admit that I wasn't expecting that ending for Lennie but I am also glad at the fact that George was the one who ended Lennie's life and not the Curley and the others because otherwise as old man Candy says on page #94, "We oughtta let 'im get away. You don't know that Curley. Curley gon'ta wanta get 'im lynched. Curley'll get 'im killed."

To continue, the other person that to me has another disability to my understanding is Curley. The reason why I say that is because on page #27 the "swamper," or mr. Candy tells George the following, "You see that glove on his left hand?" "Well, that glove's fulla of Vaseline." as soon as I read this I came to the conclusion that maybe the real reason why Curley had that glove in his left hand was because he had a disable hand and and just like Ysrael from "Drown" by JUNOT DIAZ who used to cover his face, I believe that Curley did the same with his hand because he did not wanted people to

see what he had in that hand and that explains why he had a glove covering something and not like the old man Candy said "A hand full of Vaseline, keeping his hand soft for his wife.

#2

MIHURIEL RAMOS

PROF: JULIA RODAS

5-7-18

. To start with, I am a scary movies lover, for some reason I just feel like scary movies are fascinating. Reading the story "THE YELLOW WALL-PAPER" by the author Charlotte Perkins Stetson, made me believe I was reading about a scary movie. At first, I thought that John the husband of the main character who I don't know the name of perhaps because the author doesn't mention her name. I thought that John was manipulating in some way his wife, because he wanted her to get better since she was mentally ill. But then again, I thought about it and said to myself, well I don't think John can actually help his wife because even though he is a physician as is stated it on page #647, he is not a psychologist, who is a mental health doctor that could actually give his wife the help she needs. John's lack of mental health knowledge is proven on page #648 where his wife says the following, "If a physician of high standing, and one's own husband, assures friends and relatives that there is really nothing the matter with one but temporary nervous depression- a slight hysterical tendency-what is one to do?" And I said that John has a lack of mental knowledge because a physician can give someone a diagnostic of their physical body but not a diagnostic about their mental health because they have little knowledge of it.

. Back to my main point, the reason why I said that this story reminded me of a scary movie is because, the narrator which is John's wife and also the mental ill person, starts by describing this wonderful place where her husband brought to help her get better mentally. And she starts by saying that how beautiful the place is but the more interesting part is when she describes the garden, where she says the following, "There is a delicious garden! I never saw such a garden-large and shady, full of box-bordered paths, and lined with long grape-covered arbors with seats under them." This part just through me off right away because after I finish reading the story I came to realized that the person she was

describing in the yellow wall paper was actually her own self, this part just gave me the creeps, because I started to imagining herself as a ghost trap in that yellow paper, since she says it herself at the very last page #656, where she says the following, "I wonder if they all come out of that wall-paper as I did?" also she says, " It is so pleasant to be out in this grate room and creep around as I please! For outside you have to creep on the ground, and everything is green instead of yellow. "after these quotes is when I realized that she was actually describing herself the entire time she was describing the yellow wall paper and the women on it. This is the reason why I said that it reminded me of a scary movie because of the intensity of the story which I find fascinating.

#3

2-4-18

MIHURIEL RAMOS

Julia Miele Rodas

On the book "The Odyssey," book 9, by the author Robert Fagles. Odysseus on page 217 he sees what he calls "a man-mountain," which he wants to explore just because it caught his attention. Odysseus on pg #217 part 220 says the following, which made me laugh a lot, he says "I told most of my good trusty crew to wait, to sit tight by the ship and guard her well while I picked out my dozen finest fighters and off I went. But I took a skin of wine along the ruddy, irresistible wine that Maron gave me once." This part made me laugh, because I am a wine lover and as I was reading this part I started laughing and imagining myself doing the same that Odysseus did. Before going anywhere, I would have my glass of wine, especially if like Odysseus I would have to go and explore something new or go to a new place to meet new people, I make sure I have my glass of wine. Because wine to me it's like Odysseus says on part 220 "a drink fit for the gods!" Another thing that made me laugh was when Odysseus decided to use "Nobody" as his name to be able to save himself and his crew from the Cyclop monster. I believe that using "Nobody" as a name was a smart move from him. And the reason why I said that is because on pg#224 where the monster is calling for help, his neighbors Cyclops when they come to assist the

monster, they can't believe any of the things he is telling them because every time they asked him what had happened to him or who did that to him, he would reply "Nobody," "Nobody" on pg #224, part 450 the monster claims, "Nobody, friends-Polyphemus bellowed back from his caveNobody's killing me now by fraud and not by force!" I just thought that this part was pretty funny. In addition, after reading almost the hole article I realize that Odysseus keep on talking about a person or a god called Zeus but I couldn't remember who Zeus was till I got to page #226 on part 530 where Odysseus says "Zeus and the other gods have paid you back!" after this I realize that Oysseous was talking about Zeus the god of the Olympians and son of Cronus and Rhea,. Which I read of in my Ancient Roman Art class a few months ago. Lastly, on "The Story of My life," by Hellen Keller. This story reminds me of my daughter Sarielys who is nine years old. As I was reading the story I could actually see my daughter doing the same thing that Keller did when she was seven years old. Especially when the author says "On entering the door, I remember the doll I had broken. I felt my way to the heart and picked up the pieces. I tried vainly to put them together. Then my eyes filled with tears; for I realized what I had done and for the first time felt repentance and sorrow." This very part makes me think about my daughter because she does the same thing as keller. Whenever she's angry about something or catches an attitude, ones she realizes that she has done something wrong she then starts to cry and apologizing just like Keller when she was little.

#4

MIHURIEL RAMOS

PROF: Julia Rodas

4-30-18

Continuing the second part of the book, "the curious incident of the dog in the night-time," by the author mark haddon reading through it I have to say that Cristofer is just a fascinating kid and I said that because like I said before on the first part of the assignment Cristofer is just extremely intelligent. I have to say that I am just fascinated by the way he looks at the world and the way he arranges things so that certain things could make some sense for him. For example, on pg #24 when he uses the color

yellow and red for cars to decide if he is going to have a bad or good day or to simply “put things in order,” like he said. Another instant where Cristofer show us his intelligence is when has explaining the TV show game, he uses two different examples to show us why he agrees with Marilyn vos Savant when she says, “you should always pick the final door because the chances are 2 in 3 that there will be a car behind that door.” pg#62-63. I actually love the fact that Cristofer uses math to explain why Marilyn was right but he also draws a picture of all the possible outcomes, which I think it was very nice of him because I think that he was probably thinking that some people probably didn't understood the math way and so he uses a picture to show us a simpler way to understand the game.

Following this further, one thing that I realized in “the curious incident of the dog in the night-time,” by the author mark haddon is that just like in the book “Of Mice and Men,” by Jonh STEINBECK, is that in both books women are portrait in a bad way, like the author makes women look like they are the bad one in the story. And the reason why I said that is because in “Of Mice and Men,” the author presents us Curly's wife like she was a sassy girl who walked around looking for trouble seducing all the workers and basically the author tries to tell us with her horrible ending that she actually deserved what had happened to her because she looked for it. And on the “the curious incident of the dog in the night-time,” by the author mark haddon the author kind of does the same with Cristofer's mother. Because the author wants the reader to look at Cristofer's mother like she is a bad woman, because first she cheated on her husband and second she abandoned Crsitofer and so her punishment is to leave far from her son where she cannot have any contact with her son. And I said that because Cristofer father first lie to Cristofer telling him that his mother passed away. Then he hided the letters that his mother has sent him to keep in touch and apologies for what she did. So, to me it's like in both of these books, both authors present women as a bad thing and that the tragedies they suffer in the stories is because they “deserve it.” Honestly, I think that is just so brutal because the focus here is supposed to be on Cristofer to illustrate the reader about Cristofer's brilliant brain and his capacities, and not about his 'bad mother.” and on “Of Mice and Men” it supposed to be about Lennie and not about how of a “hore” Curley's wife was.

MIHURIEL RAMOS'S PROJECT
FOR DISSABILITY 365 CLASs
WITH PROFESSOR JULIA RODAS
CLASS SCHEDULE 11:00 A.M- TO
12:15 P.M.

HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!!!!!!