

[Name removed for privacy.]

Lord of the Flies is one of the most insightful and intriguing books about human nature ever created. Throughout the book, the kids had many obstacles to overcome. The children always had a lot of work to do all the time with no assistance. The boys fought constantly due to extreme stress from their situation. In addition, the lack of expression and communication led to more problems during their stay on the island. After observing the crimes and violence that was committed I asked myself, what could have prevented the childrens' problems on the island? While many would find the presence of drug use, music and women as revolting concepts on the outskirts of most societies, they are in fact usually at the center of successful cultures. I believe that if the boys had these items on the island they would have been able to live more comfortable, successful lives.

In Lord of the Flies there are no females on the island, and because the boys are so young, it is thought that girls would be of no use to them because sex is not on there minds. I feel very differently about this; girls especially the older ones, around twelve or thirteen, think quite differently than boys. Girls are better at talking out there problems and have soothing effects on the mental condition of men of all ages. Although females would be useless when it came to essential means of survival such as providing food and shelter they could be very helpful on the island. The females would devote themselves to satisfy the men's natural desires of sex and servitude. According to 1 Corinthians: 13: "... Christ is the head of every man, and a husband head of his wife." There is a natural hierarchy of men over women and this would be accentuated due to the extreme conditions. While the boys would go and hunt the girls would stay at the huts and gather fruits, berries and coconuts. The girls would also know if the men die they would have no

means of gathering food therefore they would do everything in their power to keep peace.

Furthermore, “Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission.” (Corinthians 14:34) this is exactly what the kids needed. It would allow them to speak their minds to someone without having to worry about the social repercussions, especially ones that would come of sharing one's emotions with another male on the island. But these are young innocent kids how could they know that men (or in this case boys) are supposed to be providers and girls are supposed to be the homemakers?

Although they were just children at the maximum age of 12 or 13, after a few days on the island everyone would understand their places and instinct would take hold over most other thoughts. Marie M Robinson M.D., writer of the Power of Sexual Surrender says, “Men and women are different by nature. Men are designed for mastery of the external (physical) world, and women for mastery of the internal (spiritual) world and the home. These are not social stereotypes, as feminists argue.” Nonetheless feminine input, aid in collecting fruits and vegetables, maintaining huts or the positive mental and emotional effects females have on males, would be helpful but it is not enough to save the kids from violence or enough to preserve a prosperous civilization.

Most people tend to think that drugs are the downfall of many societies, and that drug use will lead to violence. However, P.J. O'Rourke states that “No drug, not even alcohol, causes the fundamental ills of society.” In fact drugs on the island would be very therapeutic to the boys and their psychological states and it would help cure the basic problems of the boys' civilization. “Marijuana... will often evoke pleasurable

feelings” (Escape from Anxiety and Stress). The kids would be much more relaxed and would be more willing to make peace and come to terms with each other. According to Solomon Snyder M.D. and writer of Escape from Anxiety and Stress, “Marijuana is useful in alleviating problems of boredom depression and tension commonly experienced by people of all ages and often by adolescents.” Every one of the boys on the island experienced all of those symptoms at one point or another. These disorders, if left untreated almost certainly lead to violence; this is most likely the reason for the childrens’ violence, from sodomizing the sow to the murder of Piggy and Simon. Therefore, smoking marijuana to help lessen the severity of their symptoms would cease to most of their aggressive behaviors.

Additionally, drugs on the island would become a sort of monetary system, which would motivate the children to hunt more and become more effective hunters to satisfy their drug habits. Adam Smith’s thesis in his 1776 book, The Wealth of Nations states that men act out of self interest. The monetary system that would arise from the marijuana use would encourage the improvement of the society due to individual self interests. However, periods of nonviolence can not be confused with peace. To achieve a long lasting peace a strong communication link must be made, with the kids’ added creativity from the marijuana, music would fit in perfectly.

For centuries musicians have used music as a way to try and make changes for the civilization. In the sixties especially, bands would make songs about Vietnam War or the civil rights movement and the songs made during this time period had a distinct effect on American policies. On the island music could have been used in this way and it would have been peaceful, diplomatic ways for the followers to let Ralph or Jack understand

what they were going through. Jack and Ralph could have used music in the same way but to let the supporters know what each planned to do. In this way music would have substantially helped the society. However Music is not only beneficial in political areas. Bob Marley states that “One good thing about music when it hits you feel no pain.” One of music’s most powerful qualities is its potential to calm and uplift an affect seen on animals and humans alike.

In conclusion if music, psychoactive drugs and females were on the island then the boys could have survived much more successfully and easily. While the three things alone would have minimal effectiveness on the situation, when combined they help form an ideal society. The girls would keep the huts clean, gather fruits, and when the boys got back from hunting would serve them and do everything in their power to influence peace. Next, drugs, more specifically marijuana would alleviate the kid’s problems of boredom depression, and tension, and help generate an economy on the island. And lastly music would work as a means of political communication, and a mood enhancer. These three things in my opinion together with a little work from the boys would form a utopian civilization.

Work Cited

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