Name: Mohamed Nazer  
b00054822  
Wri 101  
Huda Bakhour  
Comparative analysis essay

Henro

Life sometimes feels as if it is just one long stretch of homeostatic days, when in fact it is split into various different sagas just in the teenage alone. Each saga in one’s teenage life contain different emotional, social, and career goals, objectives and priorities which govern the things one does and the way one behaves. My son, you are now about to enter your teenage life and I want you to be aware of these psychological sagas. I am not certain as to how much longer I will be around and so I leave you this; everything you need to know about the different teenage sagas. The teenage is separated into three Sagas. The three sagas are: New Teen which starts around the time one turns 12 and last for about three years (till 15); Mid-Teen which is from the ages of about 16 to 18; and finally the Young Adult phase which starts somewhere between the time one turns 19 (so around 18 and a half) and this is the phase that prepares you for Early Adulthood).

The first saga one faces is known as the “New Teen” saga. New Teen’s are usually the most vulnerable of all the teen stages as during this time almost no one is certain as to whether they are teenagers or still children. The New Teen saga begins around the time one turns 12 and first begins to notice that the Adults in the world have been lying to them about everything being okay with the world and their families. New Teens are bombarded with segments from each objective from various sources (parents, peers, themselves, media) resulting in them acquiring a thirst to enter the Adult World, but as they are usually unable to cope with the problems of the Adult World (due to lack of experience and maturity) the New Teen saga is usually one filled with much pain and confusion. The New Teens career objective (education) stems from them realizing how important their education is to the wellbeing of their family. Almost all New Teens have this inherent drive to prove they have matured and are not children anymore, and due to this New Teens almost always have to prove themselves as “Adults” to their peers through various tasks they have witnessed adults performing (such as drinking, smoking, and physical intimacy), another reason these tasks are done is because they believe that’s its these acts that give adults the ability to handle their hardships. The last objective of a New Teen is the search for emotional stability. This objective stems from their fear of self-harm which is caused by intense psychological trauma. New Teen’s saga is potentially the most painful saga as no one believes that they are baring not only their own trouble but that of their entire family.

The second saga is called the “Mid-Teen” saga. This saga is a direct result of the “New Teen” saga. The Mid-Teen saga begins when a New Teen has given up on career goals and has begun to rebel against the authoritative figure who once placed pressure on them and then refused to believe in their troubles (so around 15 or 16). Mid-Teens believe that the only way they cannot feel pain (especially as no-one has ever believed in their pain) is by not caring about anything or anyone. The governing objectives for Mid-Teens are their social goals, and as a result Mid-Teens do things that are accepted by their social group (“friends”) even if it may not be what they like and even if it is sometimes potentially harmful as the strength the social group has over each individual Mid-Teen is high and potentially lethal. This combined with the fact they believe there is no hope for adults in this world and that once high-school ends all that they have to look forward to is a peaceful death results in them attempting “yolo” actions (racing, drinking greatly, skipping education, not worrying about their future and much more).

The final saga in the life of teenagers is known as the “Young Adult”. Young Adult’s are Mid-Teens who have finally acquired enough experience and knowledge of the adult world to comprehend the information they received back in their New Teen stage, and have finally accepted that the authoritative figure in their life was in fact only attempting to help them (this knowledge is usually acquired once the teen begins college). By this stage the teen would have bared witness to much pain and even some fatality, and having overcome all of that and entering university or career is usually what allows the teens to bring their lives into perspective (giving them a sense of responsibility). Seeing friends get hurt due to peer challenges trains the Young Adults to no longer give much priority to their basic social goals but instead do only what is required to keep their thirst for acceptance in check. At this point Young Adults finally have faith in their own futures and have accepted that they have one and thanks to this acceptance Young Adults begin to focus on their career objectives such as picking a path in life and getting good grades and basically creating the foundation for adulthood. Due to the intense experiences of the previous sagas the Young Adults tend to only satisfy their basic emotional urges such attempting to be paired with a partner to satisfy their emotional goal of being loved and wanted. Young Adult is a near Utopian saga with very few psychological or physical trauma as all objectives are balanced and the skills, knowledge and experience required to face them have also been acquired.

The travel through your teenage life is similar to that of the Japanese Pilgrimage (Henro); it can be long and difficult and you can get lost if you do not have an experienced guide (father). As I might not be able to guide you through your pilgrimage I thought it is only fair I leave you the map. Anytime you feel lost or without hope I want you to take a look at the stages and know of the pitfalls and traps ahead and also know of the hope that is yet to come. I trust you to know the good from the bad and know the difference between right and wrong. Never forget the fact that life is split into many different stages and even though it may not always seem that way, it is true.