
Social Context

Human
Nature



Scientific
Exploration

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Objectives of This Presentation

- To give you a general understanding of social context
 - To discuss importance and relevance of human nature and scientific exploration to Frankenstein
 - To show you how social context can be used in our essay
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Human Nature

Most human attitudes and behaviour have both a genetic and an environmental component. This is also true for our fear of others who are different to us which is known as bigotry.

Bigotry is hardwired into the brain's amygdala region and is a fear reflex that is primed by encounters with the unfamiliar.

Human Nature and the relevance to Frankenstein

We see the example of bigotry in Frankenstein when the creature experiences judgement from mankind and causes fear in society. The creature is created and he is innocent, though he appears deformed, his nature is to be good and kind, but society only views his external appearance. Human nature is to judge by external appearance. He is automatically ostracized and labeled as a monster because of his external appearance. He finally realized that no matter how he behaves and how kind he is, people will never be able to see past his external deformities.

Human Nature & how we would use it in our essay

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* provides an opportunity to examine these conflicting claims about human nature, as Frankenstein's creation was raised by society, and through this novel, Shelly argues that evil and the desire for revenge are learned, not innate traits. This is exemplified when Frankenstein and his creation argue in the Swiss Alps, and the creature exclaims, "I am malicious because I am miserable. Am I not shunned and hated by all mankind". The creature goes on to explain how his kind gestures were repaid with beatings and gunshot wounds by the people he tried to serve.

Scientific Exploration

Scientific exploration is the act of searching for the purpose of discovery of information or resources. Exploration occurs in all non-sessile animal species, including humans. Since then, major explorations after the Age of Discovery have occurred for reasons mostly aimed at information discovery.

Scientific Exploration and its relation to Frankenstein

In Mary Shelley's novel, Frankenstein, Victor Frankenstein uses scientific exploration to create the creature. Curiosity seems to be the reason why Victor Frankenstein was so drawn to Scientific Exploration. As a child, Victor had seen his first natural phenomena for the first time. He saw a tree get struck by lightning. Besides this, young Victor always saw the world and life as a secret that he wanted to unlock.

How it can be used in an essay

The scientific exploration in Frankenstein is used to warn the reader not to go too far when exploring humans. Nature prevents Victor from constructing a normal human being and his unnatural method of reproduction creates an unnatural being, who ends up to murder Victor's family and friends.

Sources

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