

Observing Heroism

Does being a corrupt hero make you a hero at all? Throughout the semester we have discussed the different role that heroes take. We have also discussed the role they play in their story. A few of them we considered to be true heroes, while others we found to be corrupt heroes. For my final paper I will use three characters that have the characteristics of a corrupt hero. In my paper I plan to discuss three specific characters; Gilgamesh, Rorschach, and Knockout Ned.

When I discuss Gilgamesh, I will focus on his life before his journey to become immortal. Gilgamesh is a god-like man, but uses his powers for the wrong things. Instead of using his heroic qualities to help the people of his town, he uses them to instill fear. This fear ranges from his short temper to sleeping with the wives of newlyweds. In order for Gilgamesh to turn his life around he had to meet someone new and go on a journey with this man. This journey would have led Gilgamesh to immortality. I will also talk about how I think it is selfish for Gilgamesh to try and find immortality. Why does this corrupt hero deserve to be immortal? Along with Gilgamesh there are more characters that display the characteristics of a corrupt hero.

Rorschach is the next character that I will talk about in my paper. We spent a lot of class time discussing this character. We all agreed that he does not take the nicest approach when trying to get things accomplished. He is often a brutal man that will hurt or kill someone just to get information that he needs. He is a part of the Watchmen which is supposed to be a group of heroes. Almost all of them are corrupt in some way, but I decided Rorschach would be the best to talk about in my paper. I will use this section to explain the specific characteristics and

actions that make Rorschach a corrupt hero. Knockout Ned is the last character I will use to display the characteristics of a corrupt hero.

Knockout Ned is a different from Gilgamesh and Rorschach. Gilgamesh is god like and Rorschach is an associated hero with the Watchmen. Knockout Ned is a single man that just happens to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. From what we learn in the movie Ned was in the war and was the best marksman in his battalion. Some people would consider him a war hero. He then turns into a different type of hero when he decides to try and bring an end to the man who killed part of his family. The new hero that Ned becomes fits into that same category as Gilgamesh and Rorschach. He begins to kill work with a drug gang and kill innocent people if he has to. Although people consider him a hero for standing up to a man with such power, he still does it in a questionable way. All of these examples bring me to my main argument; does being a corrupt hero make you a hero at all?

This is the point in my paper where I will argue that being a corrupt hero does not make you a true hero at all. I will use examples from *Gilgamesh*, *The Watchmen*, and *The City of God* to give my side of the argument. I will then venture into the opposing view of argument.

To give a counter argument I will use good examples from each character to prove why they could actually be considered a hero. I may even tie some of their actions to famous heroes. Example heroes could include Superman or Batman. This is where I need help from the class. How else can I argue that these characters are true heroes? I can bring up the point that they are ultimately trying to better all of humanity, but it seems there is some cost on each side. Any ideas would be greatly appreciated for this section of my paper.

I will then end my paper by bringing everything together in one or two last paragraphs. I will restate my argument and give brief examples from each side of the argument. Lastly, I will use this section to state my own opinion on the topic.