



knowledge term project #2

THINKING CRITICALLY ABOUT TELEVISION PROGRAMMING 345-101-MQ GROUP 334



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knowledge term project

Luke cage 🡪 season 1: episode 2 “code of the streets”

1. Luke cage is a marvel comic that was brought up to the tv by Netflix. It is a new serie that brings to us a lot of drama, values and action from a black community in a city called “Harlem”. Where Luke heads after his release from prison, where he looks to start a calm life but there is confrontation between black and white communities. He then meets Pops and old barber who grew up in Harlem and then meets cottonmouth, a man who wants power and money and takes it by force. A conflict for harmony and power started since one of pops workers, Chico, was being chased. Eventually causing the death of Chico and pops. That lit the belief that Luke had over pops. Saying he would only go forward, those were the same words the came out of pops mouth before dying. Now Luke is on a mission for avenging his friend pops.

2. White characters are the only favorable ones, the rest are black and in a certain type of conflict.

Luke cage: black man from the farms. has super strength and is bullet proof. looking to live a peaceful life in Harlem since he came out of jail. He slowly becomes more valuable and learns many things to help him, his race and his new city.

- Pop: black man who grew up in Harlem and was a “gangster” along with Wilfredo “Chico” Diaz and cottonmouth. he is old now and living a normal life as the owner of a barber shop.

- Cottonmouth: gangster. owner of a club in Harlem. cousin of a politician. he wants control, power, he is malicious and likes conflict. fighting, violence, corruption

- Terk: an infiltrated from cottonmouth in pops barber shop.

- Misty: detective in charge of getting Wilfredo Diaz.

-Rafael Scar: detective. Misty’s partner.

1. The show talks a lot about both harmony and conflict. Luke and pop were looking to live a regular and harmonious life since they had been in a lot of conflict before in life.

In their journey to harmony there is a problem, cottonmouth, who is the main source of conflict in this serie. he has the money and power to kidnap, control, kill and to take from others. so, it could be said that they are battling conflict to find harmony.

1. Cottonmouth’s killers go to pop’s barber shop to get Chico Diaz, who was hiding from cottonmouth. The mission was to kill Chico, but the killer started shooting to the barber shop until the 2 smg guns were out of ammo.

Luke is bullet proof and he chose to save a young clients life. but Chico and pops died.

1. The shootout was essential. since pops was trying to get Luke back into fighting just to make pops some favors, still Luke did not want. until things got serious with cottonmouth. after that, Luke was slowly getting more convinced by pops. then, pops died and that was when Luke finally decided he had to finish with cottonmouth for him to avenge pops. who would never leave anybody behind. as well for him to able to have a normal life, without problems.

6. Yes. there was a betrayal from Terk. he was acting as he was “playing” chess at pops barber shop but he was actually looking to see if Chico was there. and he saw Chico on the back, immediately Luke told him to get out. Terk was bought by cottonmouth to spy. betraying pops and eventually causing cottonmouth to send his killers for Chico. causing the death of Chico and pops.

7. it talks about many values. mostly related to the black people lives since it is one of the main topics in the series. pops had learned a lot from its gangster life and became a good person with many values. he would never leave somebody behind, ever. he would do as much as he could for his real friends. when he was dying in the arms of Luke, he told Luke “forward Luke, forward”. since the death of pop’s Luke changed, he is now following the path that he thought pop’s would be proud. I personally agree, it is not much different than in life. Black people deserve respect and freedom as we all do. They are fighting for what they deserve. On Luke side, maybe he did not not want to get into fighting again, but since the murder of pops he changed his mind completely.

8. I find the show really interesting. It’s a different perspective that we are used to. It talks about many things in the normal life of black people that not everybody might know. How they relate, how strong their values are, their goals and what I find most important, the mentalities or stereotypes of black people. I would recommend it, because the plot is interesting. Slowly the serie starts making sense and in each chapter many things are to be learned.

This serie is guaranteed to be suitable for college discussions since it has a good theme, plot and looks to transmit a message of peace. Nor like other shows that look to transmit white supremacy.

Luke Cage is a very good serie. It talks about important things in life such as honesty, values, harmony and peace, as well as how some blacks choose to live the wrong life, like cottonmouth. Main message is to demonstrate how we are all different, some look to improve in life from their worst mistakes. Others look to get deeper in those mistakes because it leads them to power. In the end power is not all. Hard work, peace harmony and friendship are the values most shown in this episode.