Outline for Movie “Sleepers”

September 25, 2007

I. Introduction
   A. Character – Lorenzo ‘Shakes’ Carcaterra
      1. Nationality – Italian American
      2. Birth Order – Only child, in that he lived in a three family member household.
      3. Education – At the time of the incident, which caused him to be sent to the detention center, Lorenzo was in Middle school. He later went on to go to high school and had some college.
      4. Occupation – In adulthood he began working as a newspaper reporter and didn’t strive to much in his profession to promote up into a higher position.
      5. Reputation – Lorenzo was a young man in Hell’s Kitchen who had three close friends. He was a well liked boy who always went out of his way to help his community.
      6. Wilkenson’s School for Boys – Lorenzo, and his three other friends, were abused physically, mentally, verbally, and sexually on the regular basis by the detention center’s guards.
   B. Theories
      1. Psychoanalytic Strategy, using Freud’s Psychoanalytic Theory
      2. Phenomenological Theory, using Roger’s Person-Centered Theory of Personality

II. Body
   A. Sigmund Freud’s Psychoanalytic Theory
      1. The Dynamics of Functioning/ Instincts – The life instinct was evident in Lorenzo’s life while he spent time in the detention center. While enduring these horrible abuses he would lose himself in a dream state. This state would allow him to take himself out of the center and away from the abuse.
         a. Solitary confinement
      2. Denial – Lorenzo would deny this abuse ever occurred, even in adulthood. Denial would allow him to cope with his own demons and push him towards caring for his own wellbeing.
         a. Dinner and conversation with his childhood friend, Carol.
      3. Repression – Lorenzo would repress his childhood memories to hide the pain he had endured at Wilkenson.
         a. Conversation with Father Bobby while at Wilkenson.
   B. Carl Roger’s Person-Centered Theory of Personality
      1. Self Actualization/ Acceptance of one’s emotional life – It wasn’t until after Lorenzo got out of the detention center that he came into the
realization of the torment he endured. This allowed him to come into contact with all the pain he was feeling.

a. Confession to Father Bobby as an adult.

2. Defensive Process/ Distortion of the meaning of experience – The sexual abuse endured by Lorenzo, by other male guards, did not coincide with his sexual preference. But later in life, adulthood, he never did get married.

III. Conclusion

A. Freud’s Psychoanalytic Theory was more consistent with Lorenzo’s personality. Most of the trauma he endured happened at a young age which therefore coincided with Freud’s developmental stages of life.

C. Carl Roger’s Personality Theory really didn’t address Lorenzo’s personality all to well. It failed to address Lorenzo’s vengeful trait, which I believed stemmed from his childhood development or lack there of.