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Enjo Kosai

("Love & Pop")

Japan as well as other countries has social issues that can be very unique to every country; however, for this analysis I will focus on enjo kosai as being an important issue in Japan's society today.

First of all, we have to understand what enjo kosai is?

Enjo kosai is the practice of compensated dating, and in many cases this may border with prostitution; however, this is only related to High School girls.

The movie "Love & Pop" has many interesting themes; among them we can find loneliness, lack of family values, lack of identity among High School girls, the uncertainty of future, and the corruption of society.

Personally the issue theme that I think is most found in the movie is loneliness, we see it in so many ways.

At first we see it at the very beginning of the movie when Hiromi wakes up in her room all by herself, from there we keep seeing it throughout the movie. This sense of loneliness plays an important role in teens today. They have to be surrounded by people who care about them; people they can trust and understand them so that they won't suffer from this issue during their whole lives.

This theme is seen not only affecting the main character but rather every character that appears in the movie. Let's take a moment to analyze the old guys paying for the dating. All of the guys have issues clearly. All of them suffer from loneliness, as we saw some of them just want to go shopping so that others would look at them as if they are normal in the society, they lack the ability to adapt to society and they try to buy whatever it is that they are incapable of reaching. Another important aspect of the movie to consider is the fact that most of the people buying the service are old

and have a profitable life, based on the way they are dressed and the money they are willing to pay.

We also see the lack of family support playing a big impact on the girl's life. Her parents don't care what she is doing in her every day life, the father seems to be living in his own world acting like he only cares about his hobby of train aficionado and not caring for his family. The mother on the other, hand seems like she is taking the role of the provider for the family, so it is important to keep this in mind when we try to understand why is it that girls get involved in the practice of enjo kosai, they have little to no support form their parents.

✓ It is also important to look at the girls practicing enjo kosai. They are pretty High School girls who sell their time to collect money to buy objects they want to get. In many cases society makes them become girls who sell their time because every where they go, they are approached by guys who are looking forward to hang out with them to fulfill fantasies in which sex might not be involved.

It is important to take into consideration the risks to which high school girls are exposed to when practicing enjo kosai. For example we can talk about the character "Captain E", he seemed like a nice guy who was friendly but in reality his intention was to kill Hiromi and to rape her. I think this is another aspect that the movie wants us to pay attention to.

✓ The message that the movie is trying to show us about this social issue is that we as society have to give more attention to our children; we have to get involved in their lives and to try to understand them and to show interest in their lives. As we saw in the movie, the girls don't have any support form their families, in fact we

don't even see the families of all the girls, we only see Hiromi's family and the family does not show any support or interest to her live, they don't even ask her how her day was in school, they show no interest at all.

✓ This is an important issue that needs to be addressed not only by society, but also by the government by creating laws to punish the guys who try to get high school girls for compensated dating as well as the girls who practice it. This could be a way to eliminate this issue, and it needs to be addressed internally by every family being aware of it to try to prevent it from happening whit in every Japanese family.

format ✓ $\frac{9}{10}$
Q1 ✓ very good job!
Q2 ✓
overall need better
example-based discussion
but overall fine