

MIT Student

Do the Right Thing Notes

“Love and Hate” speech sums up the themes of the film (also notably the first time we hear Radio Raheem speak)

“Nothing is more hateful than failing to protect the one you love” (From this week’s episode of *Game of Thrones*)

The city and conflict [Hate]

Conflicts presented:

All seem to revolve around intruders into the neighborhood

- White guy in in Larry Bird tee who bought a brownstone [Gentrification]
- Racial tensions between Blacks, Italians, Koreans and Latinos all in the same neighborhood
 - Blacks vs Italians:
 - Buggin Out wanting to get some representation on the “wall of fame,”
 - Radio Raheem being able to play music,
 - Pino wanting his own identity (Italian or Black?)
 - When Mookie asks him about who is favorite artists are, they’re all black, plus the idea that all the young people in the neighborhood are as much Sal’s children as he is
 - Blacks vs Koreans:
 - The three men by the red wall, one is bitter that these new comers have moved in a taken what the neighborhood had stopped using and become successful off it.
 - When Sal’s is burning the Korean man yells “me black” to stop them from turning on him as an “outsider”
 - They accept him because he is as much a persecuted member as them
 - Latinos vs Korean:
 - Competing immigrant groups
 - Latinos vs Blacks
 - Distrust of Mookie by Tina/her mother
 - Culture conflict through the boombox fight
- The cops
 - Solve the conflict with the man in the classic car
 - But then they kill radio Raheem

The city and people [Love]

- Relationships
 - We see no functional couples in the whole community
 - Mother Sister and Da Mayor have a love/hate relationship
 - Tina and Mookie are together rarely and only because of Hector
 - Sal and Jade could never happen
- Families
 - Mookie and his sister
 - He's dependent on her, and we get the sense he has his job at Sal's because of her
 - The character of Mother-Sister
 - He name is made of familial titles, but she has as much anger (and less love) as everyone else.
 - The child Da Mayor saves in the street and his mother
 - The community can be involved in their upbringing and protection outside the home, but inside is where the community ends
- Communication
 - The radio facing the street keeps everyone in touch with what is happening
 - Radio Raheem
 - Yelling, Gossip
 - The re-appropriated pay phone in Sal's

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