

Chapter 1 : Walter Sullivan (novelist) - Wikipedia

Other pieces discuss Joseph Conrad's Secret Agent, Elizabeth Bowen's sense of place and the failure of her later books, Evelyn Waugh's Catholicism and the religious impulse in William Golding's novels.

In other words she is among the luminaries of modern American letters whose work has provided the basis for numerous dissertations, classroom discussions, and critical tomes. She populated her fiction with febrile preachers, proud country matrons, conniving Bible salesmen, year-old Confederate veterans, and any number of other eccentrics whose physical deformities provide perfect physical correlatives for absence of the humility that presages Christian salvation. To be able to recognize a freak, you have to have some conception of the whole man, and in the South the general conception of man is still, in the main, theological. Man is a creature of entirety, physical and spiritual, and if spirituality is missing, man might as well be missing an arm or leg. Pointer, who knows all too well how cunning human nature can be. Shiftlet, whose very name is packed with thematic possibilities, shows an absence of basic human decency in his attempt to manipulate an old woman and her mute daughter out of an automobile with, it must be noted, the mother in complicity. Nevertheless a close reading of these novels and stories reveals an acute criticism of post-World War II American manners and mores, rampant materialism, pride, vanity, and, the logical consequence of all these human failings, lack of the honest piety that gives a civilization coherence and continuity. *Wise Blood*, her first novel and published book, has as its setting, ostensibly, a large Southern city, a world in which materialism and mendacity rule the day, a world of hucksters, conniving preachers, prostitutes, aimless youth, men and women who, in the absence of genuine spirituality, must find some substitute in money or casual sex. Into this world wanders Hazel Motes, ex-soldier and practically the only character in the book whose concerns are spiritual. But Haze has come to Taulkinham, this fictionalized city is it Birmingham? Motes is not the only character in the book with the potential for spiritual wholeness. A third character, Enoch Emery, also exhibits the potential, but he seems hungrier for human companionship and approval than redemption. The general enveloping action of her stories is a state not predominately but absolutely secular and material, in which her heroes and heroines miss salvation because of complete selfishness and self love. Actually it is impossible to find any society so given over totally to the evil nature of man. This can only be done in an art form. Hence the monstrosity and grotesqueness of her characters. I would say her fiction. McIntyre, is the proprietor of a farm bequeathed to her by her late husband and is struggling to make ends meet with the help of poor black and poor white sharecroppers. They have been brought to her in the wake of the Second World War by a Roman Catholic priest who is anxious to discuss religious doctrine with Mrs. McIntyre, who will hear none of it. I want to talk to you about something practical! That man is my salvation! McIntyre is a modern woman. Guizac, behind her back, is attempting to bring over to the United States his young cousin by marrying her to one of Mrs. By the end of the story, paralyzed by shock at Mr. McIntyre has no choice but to listen to the lectures on Catholic doctrine delivered by the well-meaning priest. His antagonist in this search is an atheist named Mr. McIntyre, she has transferred her faith to something else, in this case human intellect. His own faithfulness is symbolized by a phony Bible, hollowed out to hold a whiskey flask. This faithlessness, or transferal of faith to industry, intellect, science, sex, the Gross National Product, etc. But what is interesting, and distressing, is that this same spiritual paralysis has almost completely overtaken contemporary Southern letters. What we are left with, even below the Mason-Dixon line, is a literature grounded in the materialism and morbid self-centeredness that has overwhelmed the remainder of the nation. She is indicative of a culture engulfed by media and materialism, that expects the immediate gratification provided by a thirty-minute sitcom. Hobson expresses it more eloquently: What we have here are characters who inhabit shopping malls and drive-ins with no idea of and no concern for what was there fifty years before, no idea of how they fit into the whole picture, temporally or spatially. For literature, such divorce poses dire results, as the late critic Walter Sullivan, notes in his collection *In Defense of Blood Sports*. Sullivan, paraphrasing Jacques Maritain, says that only a Christian can be a good novelist. Man, after all, is more than a mere collection of corpuscles, ligaments, and follicles. He is both body and spirit, and any truly serious artist must be prepared to face this

duality or be content to populate his novels with one, perhaps two-dimensional characters. The Romantic notions of the nineteenth century, fathered by Wordsworth, among others, in which man becomes the master of his own destiny and casts off the conventions of society, including religious tendencies, have found their monstrous realization in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. In place of piety comes vanity, pride, appetite. I know you come from nice people! On the bottom of the heap were most colored people, not the kind she would have been had she been one, but most of them; then next to them. But here the complexity of it would bear in on her, for some of the people with a lot of money were common and ought to be below she and Claude. Turpin, cleanliness and respectability are the highest priorities, and anyone who violates these standards suffers her harsh judgement. The revelation of the title comes at the hands of a homely girl a couple seats down from Mrs. But the girl, unmannered and unacceptable in Mrs. Turpin; she brings Mrs. Turpin an awareness of her own sinful pride, an awareness made clearer at the end of the story by a vision in the night sky of the true order of heaven, with her type, Mrs. The vision comes in the form of a celestial bridge stretched the length of the night sky: Upon it a vast horde of souls were rumbling toward heaven. There were whole companies of white trash clean for the first time. And bringing up the rear. They were marching behind the others with great dignity, accountable as they had always been for good order and respectable behavior. Yet she could see by their shocked and altered faces that even their virtues were being burned away. New American Library, , preface. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, , Essays in a Time of Disorder Baton Rouge: LSU Press, ,

Chapter 2 : IN PRAISE OF BLOOD SPORTS by Walter Sullivan /1st Ed.

These nine articles by a Vanderbilt University professor (Death by Melancholy) reprinted from Sewanee Review, Southern Review, etc., take as their underlying theme the element of the sacred in lit.

The groups engaging in these activities are seen as uncivilized and insensitive to animals. All blood sports should be banned. Evaluate the arguments in favour of and against animal experiments. What is your stand on the topic? Blood sports are category of sports that largely involve animals and lead to bloodshed while playing them. They have been a vital part of almost every culture centuries ago. Yes, they have been in discussions over the last couple of years for a variety of reasons. Human race has always been fascinated with violence right from the beginning of human civilization. One of the oldest forms of blood sport was the one practised in ancient Rome, where people would gather around an amphitheatre and watch multiple lions fight and tear each other apart. Indian civilization has been no less. From cock fighting to bull fighting, it has been famous for its blood sports. Some cultures have even attached mythological significance to these sports. However, apart from mythological relevance, these have been one of the major sources of entertainment for the kings and kshatriyas in the olden days. But the times are changing now. As mankind is becoming more aware and enlightened, these sports are being viewed more as non-acceptable acts of brutality rather than sources of entertainment and hence losing their charm over the years. I, definitely feel an immediate need to ban these sports as they do not have any fruitful significance attached to them. They portray high levels of insensitivity towards the animals. Many parts of the world have passed various laws in their legislation to ban the blood sports but some blood sports are still legal in some cultures where people view them as a tradition more than a source of entertainment. It is delightful to see various school and college students organizing various awareness activities to educate people about these kinds of sports and urge them to stop practicing them. It is doubtful that blood sports will ever disappear entirely but it is sure getting diluted and continues to be a hotbed of controversy for many individuals. With growing popularity of such organizations, we can be hopeful of such brutal activities coming to a dead end in the near future.

Chapter 3 : - In Praise of Blood Sports and Other Essays by Walter Sullivan

In Praise of Blood Sports and Other Essays by Walter Sullivan These ten essays by one of our most astute critics focus on a number of themes but have as their underlying principle the importance of the sacred in literature, a topic with which Walter Sullivan has concerned himself almost from the beginning of his career.

Get Full Essay Get access to this section to get all help you need with your essay and educational issues. Get Access Blood Sports Debate Essay Sample Blood sports should not be banned; whatever problems there are with the sport can be fixed with reforms. Blood sports can result in chronic traumatic neurological conditions if fighters are not well matched, and fight without regulations in regard to their exposure. Ultimately, governments should do what they can to make blood sports as safe as possible, without losing the essence of the sport or banning it entirely. Banning blood sports would force people to channel their aggression into more harmful, violent activities There is no conclusive scientific evidence linking increased contact sport participation with being more violent in social settings. Such statements make it sound as though we would have not violence in society if all contact sport was removed “ and we all know that is untrue. Viewing violence generally triggers or serves in the increase of aggression of an individual. Sports such as wrestling smack down and Ultimate Fighter Competition UFC are bloody sports and have mostly negative effects on those who watch them. The objective of these two sports is to beat an individual into unconsciousness, make them tap out by inflicting pain, if none of these is accomplished within a time frame, the match is to be stopped and the judges decide who wins. Many children, teenagers, and even adults tend to try and imitate a knock out or combos that were seen performed at one of these fights onto an individual in an uncontrolled environment whether it is their sibling, friend, coworker, or a stranger for different reasons that includes but is not limited to a misunderstanding or horse playing. Watching this sport leaves the viewer psychologically aggressive. The demonstration turned tragic when one of the men landed a punch to the jaw of the other, and such was the power of the blow, that the victim fell, hit his head on the pavement and started to bleed, and had to be buried a few weeks later. Seeing and permitting violence to be seen makes it seem normal and legal when in fact it is not normal and it is horrible, but here is where lies another problem which is called desensitization. Well, have you noticed that now they no longer even bother showing that little window? That nothing is going to affect them that much. So what does this show? We have all come to a point where nothing moves us that much anymore. Pain and Injury as the Price of blood sports Many people think about sports in a paradoxical way: They accept violence in sports, but the injuries caused by that violence make them uneasy. However, blood sports are real, and it causes real pain, injury, disability, and even death Dater, ; Farber, ; Leahy, ; Rice, ; Smith, b; Young, a. Ron Rice, an NFL player whose career ended when he tackled an opponent, discusses the real consequences of blood sports. The brutal body contact of the tackle left him temporarily paralyzed and permanently disabled. I was like a tree that had been cut down, teetering, then crashing, unable to break my fall. Studies indicate that professional sports involving brutal body contact and borderline violence are among the most dangerous workplaces in the occupational world. Research shows a close connection between dominant ideas about masculinity and the high rate of injuries in many sports. Ironically, some power and performance sports are organized so that players feel that their manhood is up for grabs. More essays like this:

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Chapter 5 : All blood sports should be banned

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Chapter 9 : Brigid Brophy - Wikipedia

Walter Sullivan was born in Nashville. In Praise of Blood Sports and Other Essays () The War the Women Lived: Female Voices from the Confederate South.