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ENG110

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4/5/16

Annotated Bibliography

Bird, Sharon R. “Welcome to the Men’s Club: Homosociality and the Maintenance of Hegemonic Masculinity.” *Gender and Society* 10.2 (1996): p. 120-132. Web.

In her article, “Welcome to the Men’s Club: Homosociality and the Maintenance of Hegemeonic Masculinity,” Sharon Bird argues that “hegemonic masculinity is maintained as the norm to which men are held accountable despite individual conceptualizations of masculinity that depart from the norm.” She goes on to discuss why the phenomenon occurs. I want to tie her argument into the way that Elliot and Tyrell present themselves in traditionally masculine ways despite not actually believing in traditional gender norms. This also relates to Matthew Giles review, which focuses on how Elliot feels the need to hide his bugs, i.e. needs to present himself in a normal and gender-normative way.

Giles, Matthew. “Mr. Robot Recap: Kill Me or Embrace Me.” *Vulture.* 9 Jul. 2015. Web. 4 Mar.

2016.

In his recap and review of Mr. Robot’s third episode, Math Giles writes Elliot’s obsession with bugs. The bugs he refers to aren’t software bugs, but “the weaknesses that we hide from others.” According to Giles, this whole episode is a rumination on those weaknesses, how they affect us, and the methods we use to hide them from other people. I want to focus on the part of Giles’ review where he talks about how Elliot’s obsessed with keeping anyone from knowing his “bug”, and how that relates to losing his father as a young boy. More specifically, I want to talk about how historically, western masculinity requires that men hide any and all vulnerability, and the way that this is actually destructive (as evidenced by Elliot).

McBee, Thomas Page. “The End of Violent, Simplistic, Macho Masculinity.” *The Atlantic*. 26

Nov. 2012. Web. 4 Mar. 2016.

In “The End of Violent, Simplistic, Macho Masculinity,” Thomas Page discusses his own experience as a transgender man in America and what he discovered about modern masculinity via the process of undergoing the sex-transition process. The specific part of Page’s article that I want to draw on addresses the “new American man.” Specifically, he writes that “a new man seems to be emerging: a stay-at-home dad, forced by a failing economy and shifting workplace demographics to discover that he is, in fact, happy with a different, more expansive social role.” I want to cite this part of Page’s article (and the subsequent bits, where he argues in more detail about how the role of modern men is changing) to help make my own argument about how traditional masculinity is no longer dominant in America and how embracing traditional masculine norms is no longer a guarantee of success.

McCown, Alex. “Mr. Robot: Eps1.2d3bug.mkv.” *A.V. Club.* 9 Jul. 2015. Web. 4 Mar. 2016.

In his review of Mr. Robot’s third episode, Alex McCown focuses on Elliot and Tyrell, arguing that Elliot’s past issues with his father have shaped him by creating in him an emotional void, and that Tyrell’s masculine-corporate-executive persona is façade used to cover his insecurities. Specifically, he notes that “the opening montage, showing Tyrell slapping himself around in preparation for his big (canceled) meeting was a nice touch, revealing the tightly wound, stressed-out, insecure man at the heart of the corporate exec.” This is the part of the article that I want to draw on for my essay. Since my essay is going to focus on masculinity, I want to use the idea that Tyrell’s hypermasculine corporate personal is just a façade to talk about shifting gender values in modern America.