

Summarized, informal Thesis:

- George's choice to accept the government's unjust actions reflects an ethos that enables the government to continue repressing freedom of thought

CI:

- George rationalizes mental and physical handicaps to be necessary in maintaining order and stability, and in doing so, he is unable to recognize the importance of diversity in ability.

Point:

-

Proof:

- "If I tried to get away with it," said George, "then other people'd get away with it-and pretty soon we'd be right back to the dark ages again, with everybody competing against everybody else."

Added Commentary:

- Replace mental and physical handicaps with earpiece and weights to be more specific
- The handicaps reduce the physical and intellectual capabilities of American citizens to be equivalent to Hazel's physical and mental capabilities. This results in a loss of diversity in intelligence and ability that... [existing commentary]
- Without diversity, there is a lack of controversy directed towards problematic political ideas and decisions. George mischaracterizing the loss of diversity as beneficial to society only exacerbates this lack of controversy and empowers the government to continue its oppressive rule.

Point:

- By ignoring his physical handicaps and accepting them as part of his identity, George loses part of his identity to better fit into the H-G men's mold of the ideal citizen.

Proof:

- "I don't mind it," he said. "I don't notice it any more. It's just a part of me."
 - Context: Hazel trying to convince him to rest his handicaps
- "George was toying with the vague notion that maybe dancers shouldn't be handicapped. *But he didn't get very far with it before another noise in his ear radio scattered his thoughts.*"

Comment:

- By willingly participating in this absurdly egalitarian system, George is incapable of exploring non-conventional ideas within the confines of his own mind.

Closing remark

- George's insistence on handicapping himself pushes him to become cynical about the importance of diversity and specifically, his own individualism.

CI: George's indifference towards his son's callous and brutal murder promotes the government's unjust oppression.

Point: George encourages Hazel to forget about the government's injustices

Proof: "Forget sad things"

Comment:

- By instructing Hazel to dismiss her jumbled thoughts, he encourages her to sanitize her thoughts to be in line with what the government wants.

Point: Hazel has consistently dismissed the government's injustices,

Proof: "I always do"

Comment:

- Hazel is just as culpable as George in not opposing the government as she is quick to dismiss her emotional shock in response to witnessing her son's callous murder. This dismissal, shared by both Hazel and George, promotes the government's injustices by offering no opposition towards the government's practices
- By saying that she has always dismissed problematic and non-conventional ideas and decisions, it is implied that there is a long history of her consistently dismissing the government's actions, irrespective of how extreme the government's actions are. Moreover, Hazel's "average" intelligence and reaction to the government is representative of the ethos that has contracted the government such overreaching rules

Closing remarks

- George and Hazel's indifference towards their son's murder speaks to a gross breach of their

Conclusion

- Incorporate "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing"
- Restate thesis:
 - George choosing to accept the American government's injustices reflects an ethos that is a primary factor in enabling the government to continue to repress freedom of thought.
- Restate first CI
 - He rationalizes the need for mental and physical handicaps to maintain order and stability, but is then unable to appreciate the importance of diversity in ability in creating a fair and harmonious society.
- Restate second CI
 - George's indifference to his son's murder promotes the government's unjust oppression.
- Closing Remark

- Harrison Bergeron emphasizes the importance of opposing the status quo, because “the only thing necessary for evil to triumph is that good men do nothing”.