DJ Pointer

Group Lecture

Last week, the Group Lecture about money discussed the implications of how art, theatre, and the art of talent, play into how much it’s worth. All the discussions had a central theme tied to capitalism and personally to me, valued money over human beings of society and I will explain why I think so for each lecture. For your lecture about the value and worth of art when an artist is alive versus when they are dead. I think the most important thing you mentioned was that we should support artist’s work when they are alive because the dead ones don’t need the money and I was thinking why we wait until there dead anyway. I think it’s this idea of Marxism and capitalism where there’s always going to be an Elitist or capitalist class who owns and rules all means of production. Then you have the workers or people who are always going to get exploited for the work that they do and I think artist fall into this category. They produce art pieces and told that it’s only worth so much when they are alive and then when they die the price sky rockets and the Elitist make all the money of the artist’s work. It’s a type of exploitation.

This idea we saw even more with Dr. Gibson’s lecture about the National Anthem and the NFL. Football players like Colin Kaepernick are treated as a commodity to the nation and they get exploited for their athletic abilities and bodies. If the people who run the NFL like the owners and the stock owners and in this special case the president doesn’t like something that the players do they will take away their money and in a capitalist society, it is the means of survival. It’s like the workers gets punished if they disrupt the system that the Elitists has built to ultimately help themselves get richer. I think because we are such a capitalist society, we can devalue the life of a human being for our own selfish benefit. I also think the idea of keeping tradition and history gets in the way of progression. Because we value traditional ideas, they have gone unchallenged because we’re afraid of messing something up, but we can only make it better for the new generation and era. Most people don’t even know where a certain art or a song came from but they don’t question it because its history and no one else has challenged it.

For the theatre lecture, I thought it was interesting how money becomes a blurred line when it comes for private and public funding for art projects and programs. Only certain organizations are receiving money and the more publicize the programs is where the government wanted to cut but it’s’ not that easy. I also liked the discussion about how there are so many women who show an interest in theatre and the entertainment industry but as you look at the industry, there are more men who are more writers, actors, and even extras in theatre and film. I think this is crazy, but it shows how our society is so judgmental of women and looks factor into whether a woman will be successful as the next woman in the room.