One of the most important lessons that my family has taught me through out my life is too never take anything at face value. I have always been resistant to those in authority and that is in large part due to my family constantly pushing me to look beyond what people say and try to discern their intentions; this has made me a very big fan of politics since I find a lot of fun in finding the subtle lies and deception that many politicians weave into their campaigns. This experience could not be further from that of Mariam. While may have tried to teach her that people can be untrust worthy and deceitful, Mariam dismissed most of these claims because they where manly aimed at Jalil who Mariam adored. Mariam was completely enthralled with Jalil, “when Jalil talked like this, Mariam would listen with enchantment” (Hosseini 5). Mariam’s love for Jalil blinded her from seeing his clear faults. While I have at times been enthralled with people I have never let it become strong enough that I am no longer capable of questioning their every word and action. While being able to see through peoples actions has definitely enabled me avoid situations such as what Jalil did to Mariam, it has also made it hard for me to connect with other people since I can easily see when they are being dishonest or attempting to push their own agenda. The idea of questioning people in power was most prevalent from my parents between 2006 and 2008. When I would go to school we would learn about presidents, how wonderful they where, and a bunch of other nonsense made to appeal to small children. But almost everyday when I came home from school my father would break down every decision, policy, and lie that our current president at the time George W. Bush had made in order to finish he war his father started and landed our country in the toilet. My fathers stark words at first caused me to rebel, during the 2008 election I aligned my self with John McCain, but as I got older I started to think more about people’s words and actions and this has lead me to become a fiscally conservative independent. Similarly Mariam was at first completely obsessed with Jalil but after learning that he didn’t really care for her that much, she become much less trusting in others, especially men. 

(Image Source: <http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnnnext/dam/assets/150401134700-donald-trump-gallery-4-super-169.jpg>)

Donald Trump the man pictured above has only furthered my learning of the analysis of others from my parents. Mr. Trump has been the subject of our numerous debates about people’s intentions and analyzing his actions with my parents has been one of the most interesting and amusing experiences of my life. He is a very intriguing political character since he is a reflection of everything wrong with the average Americans concept of reality and yet many people vilify him for saying these crazy ideas many Americans have been thinking for decades. His mere running has lead to many intellectually stimulating conversations with my parents about whether you blame the person who has the internal depravities like Trump supporters or the person who brings it out of them such as Mr. Trump. My parents are constantly pushing me to challenge the status quo and that has made me a very critical thinker which is a skill that I think is criminally under taught in public schools.