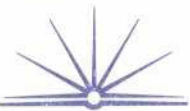


Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have been asked to open the exhibition this evening with a short outline of how these texts represent the interplay between people and power. Power is a prevalent social force which determines societal actions and interactions on a personal and global level. The nature of power play refers to the relations this power produces as society interacts within the 'power struggle,' and the roles various facets of groups and individuals have within this interaction.

The first exhibit in this evening's proceedings is the Shakespearean play Julius Caesar. In this play, Shakespeare develops the notion of absolute power, as represented by the titular character, and shows the form in which power operates. Consisting of the relentless aims of a tyrannous leader, and the conglomerative machinations of the conspirators, Shakespeare develops the theme of absolutism creating



despotic rule. Within the power group of the patricians there exists many levels of power, manifested through the power of jealousy in Cassius, the power of reputation in Brutus and the overall power of ambition, through Caesar. 'What Caesar says "do this" it shall be performed!'

However, Shakespeare presents the notion of power existing as a collective effort. Although one man may epitomise all the power, he still needs to justify his actions, as seen through his pandering to the mob, 'he thrice rejected the crown.' Caesar needs popular support to maintain his power, thus the people figure greatly within this power struggle.

The George Orwell's Animal Farm, as exhibited on the left hand side of this room, displays the same notion of people and power being inextricably linked. The book, described by some, as an allegorised account of the betrayal of the Russian Revolution by

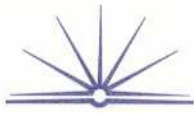
Stalin and his acolytes shows the transformation power gives as the democratic wishes of the animals are subverted ~~then~~ by the pigs' own wish for control. Thus, they eventually transcend to assume human traits. Animal Farm highlights the role propaganda and ~~censor~~ censorship has in the powerplay struggle as manifested through oratory and slogans. The slogans provided by the pigs are manipulated to suit the purposes of the ~~powerby~~ powerbrokers, 'All animals are equal, but some are just more equal than others' highlights how the exertion of power can manipulate certain theories.

Animal Farm and Julius Caesar also show the power of oratory in the powerplay struggle; - the people can be manipulated yet still need to feel justified. This is shown through the funeral speech after the assassins kill Caesar. Brutus delivers his

speech in almost a ~~an~~ vacuum of formality, his prose 'not that I loved Caesar less but that I loved Rome more' creating a mechanical response from the plebeians.

However, Marc Antony's speech, displaying all the rhythm & poetry of iambic pentameter, effectively whips up the crowd into civil war and casts doubt on the conspirators cause. 'Brutus hath said Caesar was ambitious, if it were so, it was a grievous fault'. Thus Antony wins popular support not really on the merits of his ~~argument~~ ~~oratory~~ but in the power oratory.

Michael Mann's film, The Insider portrays the interplay of the institution's power against personal power, with money figuring as a decisive manipulative factor. This exhibition is at the back of the hall, and is integral to the aspects of power ladies & gentlemen



as it shows the power of money, which you'll all admit is very corruptive yet appealing. This is manifested through the suppression of Wigand's knowledge, through legal and intimidatory methods. The dark colours and obscure camera angles adding to this.

However, the power of the institution is most forcibly shown as the attorney general is sued by the governor because he wishes to protect his business prospects and campaign interests.

This in the relentless search for power, the power of the individual is subverted by the institution. Shakespeare & Orwell urge the individual to recognise their power this showing absolute power doesn't exist as it requires the co-operation of people & power brokers. Thank you for your time & enjoy the exhibition.