Abdullah Al Kashri

AFRS 100

06/13/2017

Dr. Turner-Odom

In the first article ‘COLIN KAEPERNICK IS RIGHTER THAN YOU KNOW: THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS A CELEBRATION OF SLAVERY’ the author; Jon Schwarz, uses the preseason game where Colin Kaepernick who happened to be the 49ers quarter back declined to stand when it was time for playing the star spangled banner to bring out the point of African – American oppression and modern slavery. In the article, the author quotes Colin Kaepernick saying that he will not stand up top to show pride in a flag for a country which oppresses the black people and people of color. The star spangled banner celebrates the murder of the African-Americans and therefore offends most of the African-American players; this makes the United States of America to be a country which is not perfect as some of her citizens still feel oppressed by the cultures and the traditions that are carried out in the country. Most of the United States citizens sing the song not knowing its impact in the lives of the African-Americans as it is only the first verse that is usually sang. (Schwarz, Jon, and Jon Schwarz)

The star spangled banner was written by Francis Scott Key and it was about the battle of Fort McHenry in Baltimore. The battle took place during the war in 1812 which was a war of aggression where there was an attempt to grab Canada from the British empire by the U.S. In this war, the British recruited the American slaves into their army who happened to be the African-Americans.

 The American slaves recruited in the war were fighting for their freedom; the star spangled banner glorifies the triumph of the Americans and ironically transforms the people who killed the American slaves who were fighting for their freedom as courageous freedom fighters.

In the article ‘The Adam Jones Racism Story Isn't Just About Boston, it’s About America’, the author Dave Schiling also talks about racism and oppression of African-American players. The article also touches on the history of Boston when it comes to racism and the oppression of the African-Americans. In 1965, a legislation was passed by the state of Massachusetts requiring the; public schools in the state to integrate. Schools in Boston defied the law for almost a year making the NAACP to sue the Boston school committee and won. (Schilling, Dave)

The author of the article COLIN KAEPERNICK IS RIGHTER THAN YOU KNOW: THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS A CELEBRATION OF SLAVERY satisfies his readers well, this is because in his article there is an aspect of ethos, pathos and logos. For instance the author quotes the player Colin Kaepernick being emotional as he talks of why he cannot stand for the star spangled banner.

Both the authors in this two articles talk about racism and oppression of the African-Americans. The authors use examples of players who were discriminated against to bring out their argument on racism and the oppression of the African-Americans. The authors in the quest to validate their arguments they use different appeals, in Jon’s case, he uses the star spangled banner to convince the readers of United States’ character when it came to the treating of the African-American citizens. In Dave’s case he uses the cases of racism in Boston as reason to validate that oppression and racism exists in the United States of America.

The purpose for the authors writing the articles and making claims on racism and oppression of the African-Americans was to create awareness of the matter. The authors obtain the information in their articles from various sources for instance Jon obtains some of his information from the star spangled banner. The articles written by the two authors are written to address the citizens of America, both those involved in the oppression of the African-Americans and those who are not involved. The article on ‘COLIN KAEPERNICK IS RIGHTER THAN YOU KNOW: THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS A CELEBRATION OF SLAVERY’ was published on the 28th of August 2016, in the United States of America. The second article on ‘The Adam Jones Racism Story Isn't Just About Boston, it’s About America’ was published on the 3rd of May the year 2017 in the united states of America.

Jon’s argument is better fitting, this is because in his argument there are various instances of oppression to the African-Americans that are touched on, he does not dwell on the sports men only to bring out the issue of oppression and racism. In his article, Jon touches on various incidents such as the one that the police officers were known to be notorious thieves, stealing the properties of the free blacks with impunity. He also uses an instance where a black woman escaped and ran away from a constable who wanted to attack her; she fell off a bridge while she was running away from the constable and drowned. The issue never brought a disturbance and she was buried and the matter ended, as quoted in an abolitionist paper, it was written that there was no mercy or justice for people who were colored in the district.

Jon’s article tends to satisfy everything; he satisfies his readers as he uses simple language that is straight to the point. He also brings out his ideas clearly and does not mix them up. This enables the readers to understand his work and the message or rather point that he is trying to pass in his article. Jon is more logical in his reasoning and the way he puts his ideas.

Works cited

Schwarz, Jon, and Jon Schwarz. "Colin Kaepernick Is Righter Than You Know: The National Anthem Is A Celebration Of Slavery". The Intercept, 2017, <https://theintercept.com/2016/08/28/colin-kaepernick-is-righter-than-you-know-the-national-anthem-is-a-celebration-of-slavery/>.

Schilling, Dave. "The Adam Jones Racism Story Isn't Just About Boston, It's About America". Bleacher Report, 2017, <http://bleacherreport.com/articles/2707562-the-adam-jones-racism-story-isnt-just-about-boston-its-about-america>.