

Aldous Huxley, in his dystopian novel, - Brave New World#, written in 1932 presents a horrifying view of a possible future in which society has become a prisoner of the very technology it hoped would save us. In -Brave New World# Huxley's distortion of technology, religion, and family values, is much more effective than his use of literary realism found in his depiction of a savage reservation. Through his use of distortion Huxley tells a classic tale with the theme of, be careful what you wish for, because it may not truly be what you wanted.

Huxley effectively uses distortion in -Brave New World# through his depiction of social values of the future. For example, when Bernard Marx hears somebody talking about Lenina in the locker room, he becomes upset. Leaving the building, everyone he passes recommends soma for his bad mood. Huxley shows the reader that drug use is becoming more and more an acceptable way out for a weak society. He is showing society that we are becoming emotionally incapable of dealing with pain and hurt. Furthermore, the students, while speaking with the director of the London Hatchery, are told at one time people were viviparous, and were disgusted and outraged. Huxley is trying to warn society that its lack of commitment and endurance will eventually be its downfall. Lack of the experience of pregnancy severs the emotional ties of the woman and her child. An emotionless society feels no guilt. In addition, Lenina, when accused of lack of promiscuity by Fanny while in the locker room, religiously denies it. Monogamy requires commitment, pain, and work. Huxley is predicting humans progressing to a society of people who are unable to focus on anything but pleasure; unable to handle the work of a commitment. He knew the road we were on would lead the wrong way.

Huxley also uses distortion to open peoples eyes to the world of religion. For example, Bernard Marx hurries and frets about being late to his orgy-porgy session because he is running behind. Huxley's prediction of the church moving away from God and towards man is becoming evident even sixty-three years after his book appeared. Church figures, such as, Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggert, have appeared numerous times on the news and in the papers for using the church for money and sex. Furthermore, when Bernard and Lenina visit the reservation they are appalled at the practice of a cross of Christianity and Hinduism. A warning that lack of religious tolerance could be one of the greatest downfalls of our time. Every day thousands of men, women and children die in Middle Eastern Holy Wars, over nothing more than lack of religious tolerance. In addition, Lenina wears the sign of the T to replace the sign of the cross. The cross represented faith, something that couldn't be touched, but had to be believed in. The T,

stands for technology, something that even the weak can believe in because they can see it. Faith is a sign of a strong society, the lack of faith would be a sign that a society is becoming weak.

The most powerful distortion in -Brave New World# is found in Huxley's use of technology. For example, the world director of the London Hatchery is very proud they have produced ninety-six buds from one egg. Technology has replaced motherhood. The new society finds delight in being able to reproduce ninety-six of the exact same person. There is no ambition, no individuality, no creativity, a truly bleak society. Furthermore, while the students are being given a tour of the hatchery, they are extremely impressed that not only are the children decanted, they are predestined. Predestined. Children grow up and know one job and no other, they are taught nothing but that one job. They aren't allowed to dream and aren't allowed to hope. In addition, Mustapha Mond, one of the seven world leaders, the seven most powerful men in the world, is referred to as His Fordness. Henry Ford is the god of the Brave New World. Society has replaced what is associated with beauty, nature, and creativity, with a man who invented the assembly line, a process designed to stamp out thousands of the exact same interchangeable part. Are we going to become the exact same replaceable person? Creativity brought the idea, but will the idea destroy creativity?

