The Creation of Alphas, Betas, Deltas, Gammas, and Epsilons

“Alpha children wear grey. They work much harder than we do, because they’re so frightfully clever. I’m really awfully glad I’m a beta...” (27).

Student Response: In the BNW society, they create a caste system. When in the embryo stage, the people that are in charge of running the baby plant increase or decrease the oxygen given to different embryos. When the oxygen is increased they create Alphas, which are meant to do all the smart jobs. If given almost no oxygen, Episolons are created that do all of the grunt work. The way that these people are created makes them happy that they are in their particular place.

The Bokanovsky Process

“Standard men and women; in uniform batches. The whole of a small factory staffed with the products of a single bokanovskified egg... Ninety-six identical twins working ninety-six identical machines... if we could bokanovskify indefinitely the whole problem would be solved” (7).

Student Response: The Bokanovsky process creates stability due to the mass production of “twins” from one egg. These twins all think, work and act in the same manner. They happily work in the less than desirable jobs in society. They happily do these jobs because from conception they are trained/designed to do them.

Hypnopedia

“The principle of sleep-teaching, or hypnopedia, had been discovered” (26). “Alpha children wear grey. They work much harder than we do, because they’re so frightfully clever...” (27).

Student Response: People subconsciously know their place in society. They won’t ever try to interact with other classes. It provides stability because they are happy with the way they are and don’t care about moving upward.

The Removal of “Mothers” and “Fathers”

“Home, a few small rooms, stiflingly over-inhabited by a man, by a periodically teeming woman, by a rabble of boys and girls of all ages. No air, no space; an unsterilized prison; darkness, disease, and smells” (37).

Student Response: In this society, parents and the family unit are seen as disgusting. When parents raise their kids, they can teach their kids right and wrong in any way they see fit. This would result in people with different backgrounds causing instability. However, with no parent, the higher authority would be able to make all the people have the same background, therefore stabilizing the society.

“Everyone belongs to everyone else”

“But, everyone belongs to everyone else...” (40). “Think of water under pressure in a pipe” (41).

Student Response: In BNW, rather than invest all emotions in one person, each person spreads their emotions equally among everyone in society. Therefore, if something bad were to happen with one individual, a person wouldn’t explode with the buildup/pressure of all emotions felt toward a single person.

The Creation of Increasingly Complex Sports and Games

“Imagine the folly of allowing people to play elaborate games which do nothing whatsoever to increase consumption. It’s madness. Nowadays the Controllers won’t approve of any new game unless it can be shown that it requires at least as much apparatus as the most complicated of existing games” (31).

Student Response: Simple games aren’t allowed. The games need to consume time, thought process, and goods. The need for every-increasing amounts of “apparatus” keeps the market stable, keeping people in jobs.