

Professor Hoffman

English 101

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Frankenfoods

On cold and dreary nights, the shadows of the branches casting hands on the walls, the rustling of the fallen foliage and wind beyond the warmth of the bed and the house, where time is thickened and when the seconds become hours there is lurking in the deepest darkness of the night, the closet, red eyes. This kept mischievous children at bay thanks to mother's big black book of horrors but today any adult can see that these were hogwash tales to keep our mind off not only real issues but to know thy enemy without truly knowing his character. Today man is still treated like children but instead of Frankenstein's monster lurking in the closet it's the food in your pantry, Genetically Modified Organisms. Not only are the arguments made about GMO's not substantiated on a scientific level but stop the momentum that science has to fix many of man's agricultural problems because of an irrational fear of anything not of primitive origin based off of dogmatic ideas is not only immoral but illogical.

Many argue that GMO's are not doing all they said they would like reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides or they reduce genetic diversity. This would be a big problem considering that most of Americans foods are sprayed with toxins that protect the produce from deteriorating and being eaten by insects. Many

argue that if total productions of GMO's have increased why haven't the use of herbicides and pesticides curbed? Beth Hoffman of Forbes writes, "...the quick adoption of genetically engineered crops by farmers has increase herbicide use over the past 9 years in the U.S." although the facts of the increased use of herbicides on crops has increased from 1996 to 2011, Hoffman does not credit the decline in pesticides being used and scares the reader by using the word "glyphosate", a Herbicide commonly found in round up to kill weeds. Some weeds have built immunity to Glyphosate causing farmers to use more on GM crops that are immune to it. The controversy at hand is the effect this Herbicide has on humans however, the jury is still out and reports have been unsubstantiated. A trend in most biological arguments against GM crops. In fact Former CEO of Greenpeace, Patrick Moore tells a narrative that a small minority of biologists claim that GM crops are harmful while most believe that the vast benefits out way the spiritual arguments. The fight against GM crops has not only been on health and science but intertwined with that of cultural as well.

In the current trend, it is fashionable to be as Organic as possible and this should stay as such, a trend that has been mysterious attracted to pompous and inflated people. The reality of the situation is that for some people this becomes a cool way to bombastically give capitalism the boot by subtly, not so subtly creating a new market for foods that is locally grown, sustainably produced, organically and proudly badged a scrappy brown paper logo with a pre-Madison Avenue advertising. The irony is that such items that are innately non-materialist become

so and are a must have piece for the affluent. It must be made clear these foods are not the problem and often times proven to increase ones health and are good. The problem is that it is no longer about the objective goods these things are but the subjective way we use them to better ourselves from those who cannot afford such fandangle foods. Not only does culture make it hard to agree with the anti-GMO activists but history as well.

One of the great tragedy's in histories is how we constantly treat the things comprehend as beyond man or our grasp of understand and this is such the case for both Dr. Frankenstein's Monster and GMO's. When the doctor created the so called monster he was horrified by what he had created, he hated not only who he created but who he was to do such a thing. Shelley even wrote "by the dim and yellow light of the moon, as it forced its way through the window shutters, I beheld the wretch - the miserable monster whom I had created." Immediately this man was shunned by creation, a benign and innocent creature only to be told it was a monster and an abomination. And why? Because man is afraid of what he has done or what man is capable of accomplishing? Dr. Frankenstein's monster was a result of our lack of understanding and the disbelief that man has more control then thought previously. With ideas like that one would not know what the innards of the human body or know anything beyond the mysticism of gods. The same is true for GM crops. If man stops the great reaches of science we as a race will sit in the marshes of darkness. Socrates believed the unexamined life is not

worth living and if man does not search for ways of solving issues like world hunger he becomes no better than his fathers before him.

The world's vast issues are being solved daily by the advances of man. One of the biggest issues is that of lack of quality, economically food for starving nations that could be solved by GM crops. One of the most popular arguments for GM foods is made by Golden Rice. Golden rice has the ability to bio-synthesis vitamin A and would a cost effective way to save many lives and even was patented for humanitarian reasons, meaning the biotech companies that had not only intellectual property but licenses for such technology without charging them. Because of the anti-GMO activists many this rice is not aloud onto markets because government bureaucracy. According to the Golden Rice Project," All internationally credible science institutions have come to the same conclusion: there is no specific health or environmental risk from the techniques used in genetic engineering of crops compared to any other form of crop breeding." Because of these irrational fears and pseudo-threats, many children die each year for little sense.

With feeble points that are greatly out weighted by hard science and the creditability of institutions man's agricultural vices become mainstay because of man's lack of understanding that is not of nature and the dogma of immoral causes stand to tell he does threatened. It is crucial that the proper education and understanding of the benefits of GM crops reach the public in order to reveal the great façade that many believe. Without the great advances and heretics of the

past man would not be able to push aside the provincial ideas that made him the ungainly and unexamined, for that he thanks thus heretics.

1021 words

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English 101

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Cannibals: The Real Vampire

Vampires have always existed and have lived on this earth in myth , but they may have been created by very real cannibals . Vampires stories have been told for centuries , but what are they based on ? Cannibals have always existed in very different situations , whether it be for necessity or in some cases part of daily life . Vampire and cannibalism are both very much an intriguing topic , but they are both more closely related than one might think.

The fact that humans being consumed to stay alive might sound like it belong in the movies about vampires, but they are actually as real as the city of ST. Helens, Oregon where twilight was shot . In early American history we have heard of the Donner party ,which is a story of a family facing starvation forced to eat human flesh , or even Internationally with the Andes plane crash survivors relying on cannibalism to stay alive. Very similar to the story of the vampire that it requires human blood to survive .

Vampires are memories. "The vampire may originate from a repressed memory we had as primates"(Del Toro and Hogan 37). The human being is so intrigued in vampires because they see a lot of themselves in them . The vampire is personified as a human like creature and the only thing that sets it apart from a human is its thirst for blood not just the fact they sparkle when in the sun. The vampire personifies that fact that we can look normal and do monster like things such as eat our own kind.

The vampire has been around for a very long time as far back as cities that don't even exist anymore. Del Toro and Hogan speak of the history of the vampire by saying, "The myth , established well before the invention of the word "vampire" seems to cross every culture ... The Indian Baital, the ch'ing shih in china and the romanian strigoi...the creature seems to be as old as Babylonia and Sumer"(37). The vampire stretches as far and as wide as a human can reach to tell the tells.

Cannibals have been thought as savages and inhumane ,But they do it because they have to , to survive. The korowai are believed to be one of the few tribes to eat human flesh today now that's a scary thought considering that we all think we are civilized . In fact the same urge to survive is in all of us, just like the vampire and it has the urge to survive .

Vampires change just like humans do. "vampires find their niche and mutate at an accelerated rate now"(Del Toro and Hogan 37). Since the vampire is a human creation it evolves like a human would. The only reason the vampire doesn't disappear is because the fear of an inner monster lingers in peoples minds. The cannibalistic traits we carry are very much real and hence the vampire continuous existence .

The vampire may have traits absolutely brought from fantasy such as , the fact they have super human abilities and can live forever unless stabbed in the heart really doesn't make the immortal but that's another discussion. Mankind seems to be obsessed with immortality because it is something it can never be . This very human idea adds to the fact the vampire is very much human in all ways .

The cannibal is absolutely real unlike the vampire . A cannibal is a monster just as is and brings fear with its all its real danger. A person never wants to be the victim like Asma says,"no one like imagining oneself a victim"(65). Everything is real danger and we are always at risk against ourselves

,"despite our obsessive harnessing of information, we are still vulnerable to our fates and our nightmares"(Del Toro and Hogan 38).

The vampire has a meaning of fear such as Godzilla and Frankenstein . Mankind has always personified its fears and created monsters . The nuclear bomb created Godzilla , advances in science created Frankenstein , But nothing is more fearful than what has happened all through history , cannibalism. The vampire is so closely personified as a human it is almost human .

The most famous story of vampires is Dracula which is the almighty vampire . He has been shown in so many ways that are too many to even talk about . The vampire is shown to be uncontrollable when it taste or sees blood very relatable trait such as a toddler not getting the toy they want at Walmart and uncontrollably panics ,screams, and cries without any thinking just acting off of instinct like as if it was a necessity ,but that is todays kids.

Humans hide monsters inside all the that's why they hide cannibalism so easily .They do go find those demons when they make movies , write poems , or write tv shows scripts . This dark past humans carry tend to be so entertaining that you see a new show about it every second . The vampires tends to fall in love like humans and feels emotion when it loses one of its own . The cross between a human and a vampire seem to be so effortless it almost seem as they belong.

The vampire was created to explore the imagination to add to mankind's fascination with the unknown just to come to figure out it is an idea more familiar than expected. The tales of cannibalism and vampires have existed since the dawn of man and have yet to stop . As time goes by the vampire seems to become more human and beginning to show its roots of cannibalism. The contribution of cannibalism to the vampire story is much deeper than we could ever imagine to believe that any modern day person can be a cannibal makes us believe that maybe vampire are real. Word count:1009

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