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Lens #4

YALIT

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Critical Response

The Hunger Games is the perfect text to raise issues about resources and power within society. After North America becomes one nation known as Panem, the Capitol uses a barbaric “game” to show exactly who has the power in this nation, and the consequences of trying to overcome a higher rule. Collins uses this text to illustrate the severity and obstacles that comes along with limited resources or none at all. The Hunger Games is an explicit example on how society can change over time and how socioeconomic status makes you a stronger person.

To show the people of society who have the power in this world, the Capitol of Panem chooses one boy and one girl from each of the twelve districts to compete in the life threatening Hunger Game. By doing so the Capitol portrays the society just how fast they are able to use this power to end your life, or provide severe consequences. This is a barbaric way to control society. The capitol provides the game through televised casts all over the nation, to show other members of society exactly what will happen. They treat this game as a sort of holiday. The Capitol is showing these people that by making one mistake, you will be killed. The people of this society are living in fear everyday which is not a way to live. The Capitol controls their every move, decisions and their freedom.

This text shows many examples of how hard it is to live in a society with very limited resources. The main character Katniss Everdeen shows how to overcome the obstacles of little food and supplies for her family. Her character finds ways to fend for herself and to help keep her family from starving in this low economic district. She uses clever hunting and trading skills to keep up with this task. Collins portrays Katniss in this picture to show readers that as individuals we should be grateful for everything that we have, especially in a spiraling economy.

Collins does a great job by illustrating how a society can change in terms of power, resources and everyday life. After reading this book, the text sends a message to its readers. It is important to live as a good society, meaning for the good of the people. Collins is portraying to readers that fighting, and trying to overcome a higher power will only turn into chaos. Katniss Everdeen is the perfect example of a person with character from a low socioeconomic status. Although she isn’t as wealthy or as trained as the other tributes for this game, she comes out on top by using her own skills. Her character displays that socioeconomic status doesn’t define who you are, and neither does society.