

Student Essay on Analysis of "Catcher in the Rye"

Analysis of "Catcher in the Rye" by J. D. Salinger

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Essay

In the book 'The Catcher in the Rye' I think that Salinger writes a very questionable story which has a very intriguing insight into how modern adolescence behave and think in the time when the book was written. I also think that a lot of the book can still relate to how adolescence portray things today.

There are a lot of key themes in the book which are common among adolescence these days. I will be discussing these during the duration of my essay, they will include how Holden thinks of so called 'phony' people, his relationships and sexuality, his conflicts and rebellion and also his personal identity and conformity.

Holden thinks there are a lot of phony people in the world and that they all are seeking their own feeling of accomplishment in some way. He can only relate to one person his sister, Phoebe. Holden is a compulsive liar and he fears intimacy which may show that he is lacking a little self comfort with himself in letting go and expressing his real feelings. Some examples of phony people are Sally Hayes, Carl Luce, Maurice, Sunny the prostitute, and even Mr Spencer. These people are phonies according to Holden and I can see why he thinks so.

Holden has sexuality and relationship problems. These are mainly caused by his inability to express himself in a regular way, Holden is very unpredictable in his behaviour and moods.