What Makes a Hero?

It’s the last penalty kick of the soccer game before Dalton State is about to be eliminated from the playoffs. Every player stands behind their former captain Isa who is about to take the shot. He calmly approaches the ball and doesn’t look at the goalkeeper; he places his foot just middle way from the bottom of the ball sending it to the top right corner. GOOOOAAAL!!!!! The goalkeeper misses the ball, and Dalton State wins! Heroes come in different shapes and sizes and at different moments. For Dalton State, Isa became their hero when he scored and won the game for them. In the movie Red Dawn produced by John Milius, Jeb becomes a hero to the boys and girls who decide to stay and follow him and to the entire world. He had the choice to leave town with his brother and his friends, but he stayed to fight back. A hero is a person who leads courageously, fights back, and looks out for others rather than himself.

First, A hero has to have the courage to stand up to anything that is harmful too himself or others. They are able to adapt to any change that goes on. Olivier Fournout quotes, “a hero faces difficult problems of collective adaption and change” (23). It takes a lot of courage to lead in a time of conflict, but a courageous hero has the courage to get through it. Despite the fear they may feel, they go beyond it and confront the situation. A courageous hero is able to step out of their comfort zone and take action.

Secondly, a hero has to be able to fight back. It doesn’t always have to be physically, but it can be verbally or by protesting. They have to be able to make a positive change that will benefit
people. Barry Schlenker says, “heroes who fight back provide reference points for goals, standards, and ways to behave” (326). A hero who fights back doesn’t fight back for revenge; they fight back to accomplish goals, reach certain standards that need to be reached, and correct any behavior that is negative. A hero fights back to defend others or certain ideas they have.

Lastly, a hero does more for others than for himself. Jed, in the movie Red Dawn, is a hero because he sees how scared the boys and girls are, so he steps out of his comfort zone and shows them there isn’t anything to fear. He takes control of the situation and leads like a hero would. He takes the responsibility of looking out for them and leads. Mr. Mason tell Jeb, “they brought their kids. They said they didn’t have enough food to get them through the winter. They want to give them to you Jeb” (Milius). Jeb is a well-known hero all over the world. They know he lookouts for whoever is in his group, so they want him to take care of their kids. He is a perfect example of a hero who looks out for others and not just himself.

In closing, a hero is a person who leads courageously, fights back, and looks out for others rather than himself. Heroes come in different shapes and sizes. It doesn’t matter how big of an impact they make as long as they stand up for what is right and defend their beliefs’. A hero is a leader who doesn’t create fallowers but creates fallowers who become great leaders.
Works Cited

