O’neil 1

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# Fear Is One of the Dominant Themes of the Chrysalids

What is fear, and how can it affect a human? These are questions that are not normally asked because this emotion exists in all humans. Fear has become as common as happiness or sadness. When humans are fearful of something, they let that fear influence their choices and decisions. *The Chrysalids* is simply an exaggeration of what this emotion is capable of doing to a society. The existence of fear in the novel is a crucial factor in the unfolding of the plot. Most of the problems that occur in John Wyndham’s tale happen because of it. Ultimately, *The Chrysalids* suggests that fear shapes the mindset of humans and how they interact with one another.

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Infatuation and its Consequences

According to Teen magazine: “Crushes are as common as colds” in young society. However, during a crush, youths are convinced that the temporary obsession they feel is real love. It seems teens cannot distinguish between a fleeting infatuation and genuine love. In addition, their lack of experience prevents them from controlling this strong feeling. Shakespeare explores this conflict in his famous teenage play. The play *Romeo and Juliet* shows that teenagers’ powerful but uncontrolled love leads to foolish and unwanted results.