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The Fight for a Mental Freedom

               Have you ever like you are backed into a corner? Well in the story “*Soldier's Home”* by Ernest Hemingway by is a story about how Howard Krebs returns home from World War l and is depressed about the things he saw and experienced. Krebs is angry because everyone around him is supporting him, but he cannot express his sorrow to his community. In the midst of all his rage, he takes his rage out on his mom and tells her that he does not love her. He tells his mom that he is lying, Krebs realizes that he just needs to move away from everyone and start a normal life all over again. In “*Soldiers Home”* express that you must express yourself to receive mental freedom.

               To begin with, Krebs came home from World War l and nothing has changed with his parents or hometown. Everyone views Krebs as an American hero who just fought in a horrific war, but no one wants to hear about the atrocities. Krebs slowly starts to suffer on the inside because he has no one to express himself to. According to Hemingway, “Krebs found that to be listened to at all he had to lie, and after he had done this twice he, too, had a reaction against the war and against talking about it. A distaste for everything that had happened to him in the war set in because of the lies he had told” (Hemingway 1). When Krebs finally realizes the lies he was telling himself were not true he was derating because his past was catching up to him and he had to deal with it. Krebs was going into a depression because of this and no one in his community would not listen to his stories that he needed to tell to set his mind free.

               Furthermore, Krebs was starting to get frustrated with himself because no one around him could connect with him. If there was someone Krebs could go to and express his feelings and what happened he could be free of his past demons. Instead of him finding someone to talk to it about with Krebs, he lashes out on his mom and tells her that he does not love her. He regrets telling her this and soon admits he was lying and he does love her. Hemingway indicates on page 6, “It wasn’t any good. He couldn’t tell her, he couldn’t make her see it. It was silly to have said it. He had only hurt her. He went over and took hold of her arm. She was crying with her head in her hands. I didn’t mean it, he said I was just angry at something. I didn’t mean I didn’t love you”. Krebs took his rage out of his mother because he could not release his thoughts. He was not angry at his mom, but instead, he was mad that he could not tell anyone about the war. If Krebs could express his thoughts then his mind would be free of all his rage and anger.

               Lastly, Krebs decides it is best for him to just live a new life and let go of his old one. After this incident Krebs goes to Kansas City a for job. With this job Krebs can start a new life. His new life in Kansas City involves his living a smooth simple life as a former Marine. Hemingway analyzes on page 7, “He wanted his life to go smoothly. It had just gotten going that way. Well, that was all over now, anyway”. His former life was now over what had caused him such misery some parts of it he would miss it but he was looking forward to a simple life, with no reflection of it. Krebs was expressing that he wanted to live his hometown to achieve mental freedom.

               In conclusion, author Ernest Hemingway asserts that to achieve mental freedom you must express yourself. Krebs mind is filled with his past that he takes it out on his mom and tells her he does not love her. Krebs tries to get away from his past by moving to Kansas City to start and smooth and simple life. Krebs has no one he relates to in his hometown and everyone is still the same. Krebs feelings backed him into a corner that causes him to get a great rage.

Hemingway,ERnest. *Soldiers Home*. Myer 170-175.