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American Sniper

War is not all it's cracked up to be; this is clearly portrayed in the film directed by Clint Eastwood, American Sniper. [it should be underlined in your title as well] This film follows the true story of Marine sniper Chris Kyle during his time in Iraq and with his family at home. Chris Kyle, played by Bradley Cooper, is the deadliest American sniper who ever lived, yet he never basked in the light of this achievement because he knew what he had done to receive that title, and it significantly altered his life. Many people glorify war and do not understand the effect it has on those who endure it. After I watched this movie, my mindset of war drastically changed. The change in Chris' behavior during each deployment, and at home with his family, and his struggle to change is are portrayed thoroughly throughout the film.

During the early scenes of Chris['] sniping, his pain is evident with every shot he takes. His breath and heartbeat are audible[,] and you feel his emotion as if it were your own. In one scene[,] he has to shoot a child holding a grenade, and you can almost feel his pain when he does it. The more kills he gets and experience he receives, the easier it becomes for him to kill; it is no longer a struggle to take each shot, and he becomes almost robotic, just going through the motions. Although it seems easier for him, each time he kills, his mental state is negatively affected. Bradley Cooper does a remarkable job depicting the change in behavior of a soldier who has seen countless deaths.

Chris is deployed to Iraq several times during the movie. Each time he returns to his family, he seems more distant. The first few times he is overjoyed to be back[,] and he and his family are happy together; but the more he is deployed, the more distant and unemotional he becomes. In the later parts of the movie, he hardly responds to his wife when she talks to him. Taya Kyle, his wife, says, "You're my husband, you're the father of my children. Even when you're here, you're not here. I see you, I feel you, but you're not here." The war slowly tears Chris away from his family to the point where he is just a shell of his former self, with his mind always at war, instead of at home. During these scenes, very little to no music is playing which emphasizes the loneliness and emptiness of their lives. The brilliant acting of Bradley Cooper and Sienna Miller (Taya Kyle) allows the viewer to sympathize with them and their situation.

Chris eventually retires from the military after he decided he's had enough of killing and tries to focus on his family. He gradually begins thinking more of his family and tries to become a better father. He spends time with his son and wife, but each time someone mentions war and his achievements, Chris shows strong signs of his PTSD. The way Chris acts would have you believe he is back to normal, but there is clearly permanent damage. Chris eventually grows close to his family once again, and he decides to help other veterans who struggle with the same issues he once did. This film is a great reminder of what soldiers must endure during, and possibly after, war.

The subtle use of music, great acting, and emotional moments in this movie come together to present an unforgettable experience portraying the tragic life of American sniper Chris Kyle. Many people believe this film is just American propaganda about another American hero; and while it does tell the story of a true hero, it portrays the consequences and sacrifice of

soldiers for their country. Although most soldiers come home from war, not all of them are truly home. The story of Chris Kyle is a true, heart-wrenching account told brilliantly in American Sniper. [you did a great job with this assignment from opening through development to closure]